

The Playground

MAY, 1927



Slow Clubs—A New-Old Idea in Recreation

By George F. Kearney

Leisure and Life

By Frederick Keppel

More Athletics, Fewer Crimes

By Hon. John T. McGovern

Singing Mothers

By Ivah Everett Deering

Quilting Parties in Chicago

By Anna C. Artkamper

Municipal Golf—Its Influence on Park Recreation Affairs

By H. S. Wagner

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The Playground

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No. 20214

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CREATIVE EXPRESSION THROUGH MUSIC

The Playground

VOL. XXI, No. 2

MAY, 1927

The World at Play

A Million Dollar Gift for Los Angeles.—

Miss Aline Barnsdall has given the city of Los Angeles in memory of her father, Theodore N. Barnsdall, a property consisting of eight acres of land valued, with the residence, at one million dollars. The present residence is to be used by the California Art Club for fifteen years. At the end of that period, the building may be replaced with another for similar purposes. The park, it is believed, will become one of the finest art centers in the world.

To Stimulate Creative Work among Negroes.—

The Harmon Foundation, 140 Nassau Street, New York City, announces as its second series of annual awards for achievement on the part of colored citizens in creative work in music, fine arts, sciences, business organization and religious work, four thousand dollars in awards to be administered by Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the Commission on the Church and Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches. Seven first awards of \$400 with gold medals, and the same number of second awards of \$100 with bronze medals will be given. Both negro and white citizens are eligible for an eighth award of \$500 with a gold medal, which will be given the individual making the most distinctive contribution during the year to the betterment of relations between the two races.

Nominations and applications will be received by Dr. Haynes at 105 East 22nd Street, New York City, August 15th. Successful candidates will be named on or about January 1st, 1928, and awards will be presented on Lincoln's Birthday, 1928.

Home Dedication Day.—In January, 1926, Professor H. Augustine Smith of Boston University, dedicated his home with appropriate religious services. So much interest was aroused in Professor Smith's service, and there has been such a demand for suggestions along this line from ministers, educators, women's clubs and organi-

zations that Mr. Smith has suggested April 13th to be set aside as Home Dedication Day. Correspondence received by Mr. Smith indicates that Home Dedication will stretch across the United States and on to Hawaii, Philippine Islands, Japan, China, Korea, Australia, India, South America, Africa, and European cities.

The ceremony, Mr. Smith suggests, may be nothing more than the lighting of the hearth fire with the family circle gathered around for song and prayer. Whatever can be done to strengthen home ties will be appropriate. Professor Smith, whose address is 20 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., has prepared a suggested program of hymns and prayers.

Norfolk, Virginia, Acquires Property for Recreation.—

The city of Norfolk, Virginia, has secured for a public recreation center a tract of land consisting of 120 acres which will be converted into a public bathing beach, a golf course and a general recreation center. It will cost the city about \$110,000 to pay for the land acquired; \$80,000 of this will be paid for by the city's share of 2½ per cent. of gross receipts from motor bus operation.

The two municipal golf courses now being operated are overcrowded and the plan for development of the new area calls for an eighteen-hole course back of the municipal bathing beach.

A Governor Makes a Plea for Recreation.

—Two million dollars additional for parks was asked for in a special message by Governor Smith to the New York State Legislature.

"Proper attention to recreation and outdoor life today means less sickness, less crime and less State activity and expense for hospitals and courts tomorrow. Our institutional program is mostly cure; our recreational work is preventive. As our life becomes more artificial the need for great areas where natural conditions remain is a vital necessity."

"This is a great constructive field of State action," the Governor said. "It belongs not in the class of luxury, but in the class of necessity."

Part of the money asked for is to be used to build a causeway which is to make Jones Beach more valuable to the citizens of New York and Long Island.

Toward a Balanced Personality.—A recent survey of the Y. M. C. A. in New York defines the purpose of the local Association to be "to provide what is necessary in order to adjust young men under thirty years of age to the city environment with a view to developing a balanced personality animated by a keen sense of social responsibility."

Education for Leisure.—The newly named superintendent of public instruction, for California, William J. Cooper, announces that California's educational system, which has led the way in teaching students how to work, must now take the lead for preparing for the age of leisure. He believes that the five-day week in industry may be considered a certainty in the near future. "The task before the schools is to equip people to rest intelligently. We have thousands of boys and girls as well as adults who find themselves with leisure time and no knowledge of how to occupy it. Much of the crime today is committed because of the lack in leisure training."

Modern Boy Not So Bad.—A recent study of New York City boyhood by F. F. C. Rippon, former secretary of the Department of Correction, has, according to *Better Times*, produced a mass of well authenticated figures to prove that boy crimes are at least 50 per cent. fewer than they were a decade ago.

Recreation and Delinquency.—David W. Armstrong of Worcester, Mass., makes the statement that during the year June 1, 1925—June 1, 1926, over 900 names of boys under 21 years of age appeared on the Worcester police blotters for delinquency and crime. Of this number only 34 were members of the Boys' Club.

Many boys' workers make the mistake of claiming too much for recreation. One often sees statements that out of so many boys who have enjoyed the privileges of boys' clubs, the Boy Scout movement, or the recreation movement, not a single boy has been found in jail.

Mr. Armstrong's statement is the stronger because it does not try to claim too much.

Play and Juvenile Delinquency.—"Children are not born criminals," said Dr. Olga Bridgman, psychiatrist and juvenile court worker at a meeting of the San Francisco Community Chest workers. "They are made criminals by the community in which they live. The big thing in a child's life is where he plays. It is at play he learns the lessons of fair play, teamwork and cooperation—learns to get on with his fellows. Supervised recreation is the only answer to the problem in such cities as San Francisco.

"Three-quarters of the delinquent children are normal physically. Their defects of character are not due to feeble-mindedness but to lack of the chance to develop normally and make the social adjustments, fitting them for sturdy manhood and good citizenship. Let us build recreation centers instead of jails."

Boston Plans for Its Tercentenary.—Boston is now making plans for its tercentenary celebration in 1930. A greater Boston Citizenship Committee has been organized, consisting of about thirty citizens representing the several cities and towns of the Metropolitan District. It is proposed by the committee that the celebration stress particularly cultural and historical interests and civic betterment, and that it emphasize the perfecting of community assets.

For the Girls of Lowell.—The Girls' City Club of Lowell, Mass., has a varied program with a wide appeal. There are classes in dressmaking and correct English; in bridge, dramatics and the making of lamp shades. "Stories in Verse" is the subject of a course given by Professor Roberts of Harvard University. Members of musical taste may join the Glee Club which gives concerts at hospitals and local institutions. Among the special events are theatre parties, illustrated lectures, suppers, fudge and popcorn parties, sleigh rides, play reading, winter carnival, and a Sunday tea and book review. The athletic program includes gymnasium and basketball, a "keep fit class," bowling, winter sports, toboggan parties and Saturday afternoon hikes.

Don't Neglect Play, Secretary Hoover Urges.—"Don't forget to play," is the message sent by Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, to a school boy in Waterville, Maine, who had told

him how he had made toys during his spare time. Secretary Hoover replied, "I am glad to hear that you have been making things during your spare hours. It is very commendable for a boy of your years to be utilizing his time in that way. But don't forget that play is a real part of human life and that it is the domain of boys—for it diminishes as you get older."

A City-Wide Play Contest.—The Bureau of Community Dramatics, organized by the Department of Recreation of York, Pa., announces a city-wide play contest. Any group may enter either the junior or senior division. Original work in posters, home made scenery and costume design will be taken into account in making the awards.

Salem Receives a Bequest.—In the will of W. A. Rollins, former city treasurer of Salem, Mass., appears a bequest of \$10,000 for concerts and picnics.

Park Developments in the Westchester County Community.—Westchester County, New York, has set a remarkable pace in the acquisition of land for park purposes. More than four million dollars for county parks was voted by the County Board of Supervisors on January 17, 1927. This makes the total of \$39,000,000 which has been set aside since 1923 for the development of county parks and recreation facilities.

A Skating Rink as a Reformatory Measure.—According to the *Boston Traveler* of January 28, the officials of the Wisconsin State Reformatory at Green Bay flooded the baseball diamond to provide a skating rink, an acre and one-half in extent, which the boys enjoyed for a ninety-minute period each day. Skates were purchased out of the school athletic fund raised by candy sales.

School Planning in a Small Town.—Hanover, Massachusetts, a small community on Cape Cod, has recently purchased twenty acres of land for the site of a new high school.

Teaching Baseball.—The Department of Recreation at Houston, Texas, last spring offered a six-weeks' baseball school to all boys in the city under eighteen years of age. Its purpose was to

teach the rules of the game and better ideals of sportsmanship by practical demonstration. The average daily attendance was fifty.

Dramatics at Houston.—Troupes of puppet players, organized by the Houston, Texas, Department of Recreation, go over the city playing for clubs and similar groups. The players were present, too, at the Harris County Library Association meeting at Katy. The annual Puppet Tournament with troupes competing from eighteen playgrounds has been set for the last week in July. Dramatic groups are being organized on the eighteen white and two colored playgrounds. The Service Bureau of the Drama Division supplies plays, costumes, curtains, lighting equipment and stage properties to public and private schools, churches, clubs and private parties at a small rental charge.

Last December at North Side Library was organized the "Very Little Theatre." Four performances have been given, three for children and one for adults. Membership now includes fifty-five boys and girls between the ages of seven and fourteen.

Social Recreation in Houston.—"Come out of doors, the air is fine," is the summer slogan of the social clubs for young people operating under the auspices of the Department of Recreation. Six new clubs have been organized on the summer playgrounds which have been enthusiastically received by the five all-year round clubs. Hikes, picnics, swimming, tennis and pantomime stunts are included in the summer program.

Bathing Places.—The transactions of the sixth annual conference of State Sanitary Engineers, which may be secured from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 20c, contains the report of the committee on bathing places, findings are based on a questionnaire sent to 350 officials connected with private and municipal pools. The report supplies information on the following questions:

1—Should there be any basic difference in the design or in the sanitary requirements of indoor and outdoor pools?

2—How should the bathing load limits in the tentative standards be applied to different pools?

3—What is the maximum number of bathers who may be permitted to use the swimming pool at the same time?

4—What limits should be placed on the bathing period?

5—What depth of water should be provided for diving from different elevations?

6—What areas should be reserved in the immediate vicinity of diving boards for the use of divers only?

7—What limit should be placed on the number of persons permitted in the water in the immediate vicinity of diving boards?

A New Bath House.—The *Weekly News Letter*, published by the Los Angeles Recreation Department, states that a new bath house is to be erected at the Griffith Park Playground at a cost of approximately \$70,000. The swimming pool is nearly completed and the bath house will provide dressing rooms, lockers, showers and other facilities. The building will be connected by pergolas with two field houses for boys and girls.

A New Playground for San Antonio, Texas.—Announcement comes from San Antonio that the city is to have another great municipal park provided with all the latest playground equipment and large enough to accommodate thousands of sport lovers. Eighty-eight acres at \$850 per acre have been bought for the purpose.

The action taken by the city in buying the property came after the property owners and residents on the south side had made numerous petitions for a park large enough to accommodate the people living in that section of the town. The city hall was deluged with the postal cards on which the requests came.

Municipal Golf in Detroit.—Municipal golf paid the city of Detroit \$29,500 last year, according to the February 13th issue of the *Detroit News*. This represents the sum remaining after all costs for operation, salaries and improvements had been deducted. It is the result of 288,898 rounds of golf played on Rackham, Palmer Park, and Belle Isle courses in 1926.

Rackham course, opened in the spring of 1925, shows profits six times greater than those of last year. With an attendance of 79,024, the profits were \$14,044.77.

Automobile Club Advertises.—The Automobile Club of Southern California has posted at advantageous parts of Los Angeles direction signs showing the routes to various municipal play-

grounds. The club has also issued a circular of information helpful to those who want to visit public play centers.

Million Dollar Equipment.—Equipment valued at nearly one million dollars will be available for the Roxbury Boys' Club and the Boys' Club of Boston, two boys' clubs which have recently merged their administration. These two clubs have a joint membership of 7,000 boys.



Courtesy of Progressive Education

THE SHEPHERD'S PIPE AND THE COCOANUT BANJO

Creative Expression Through Music.—The January-February-March issue of *Progressive Education*, published by the Progressive Education Association of Washington, D. C., is devoted to the subject of music education for children. It will be of great interest to recreation workers who are stressing music in their programs.

To this issue, Mr. Surette has contributed an article entitled, "A General View of Music Education for Children." Professor Peter W. Dykema writes of the "Place of the Festival in Modern Life," "Creative Experience Through Making



Courtesy of Progressive Education

FIRST YOU MAKE YOUR INSTRUMENT. THEN YOU MAKE
YOUR MUSIC
Cello and Marimba Duet

"Musical Instruments" is the title of an article by Satis N. Coleman. Other articles include "Experiments in Melody Making" by Katherine K. Davis, "Rhythmics" by Ruth Doing, "Teaching Instrumental Music Through Music" by Norval Church and "Creative Music in the Group Life" by Ellen W. Steel.

Copies of the magazine may be secured at \$.60.

Community Singing in Troy.—The Recreation Commission of Troy, New York, began its second year of community singing with a sing attended by 1,500 people. The seating capacity of the largest auditorium in the city was taxed to the limit and hundreds of people were turned away for lack of space.

Community singing began in Troy in September, 1925, with the organization by Francis Wheeler of the P. R. A. A. of small community sings in various parts of the city. In February, 1926, the various units were invited to a big central sing. Since that time, the sings have been

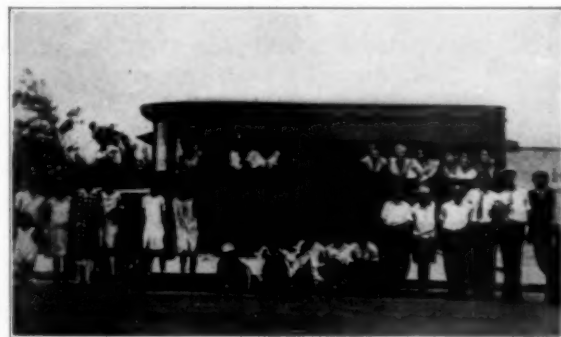
conducted regularly at the first Monday of each month with the exception of the summer months. The sings are conducted by Fritz Beiermeister, who secures local artists as volunteers to add to the interest. The program usually takes the form of an organ recital while the people are assembling, followed by three-quarters of an hour of community singing. Twenty-five minutes is usually the period given over to the soloists. The program is brought to a close with another half hour of general singing. No admission is charged and there is no regular enrolled membership. A collection is taken at each meeting which helps defray expenses. Any deficit is taken care of by the Recreation Commission.

The record which Troy has made for sustained regularly conducted Community Sings is an enviable one.

An Inexpensive Neighborhood House.—

The Park Board of Springfield, Mass., has transformed an old portable school and voting booth given the Board into a neighborhood house in the Italian quarter. There are two rooms, each 24 feet by 36 feet and an addition for showers and toilets. It is to be painted, and the Italian Women's Club will furnish it. The entire cost will be less than \$1,000.

A Recreation Bus.—The Department of Public Recreation of West Palm Beach, Florida, is the possessor of a bus used to carry the children to swimming and picnic places. Recently the municipal garage in which the bus was housed burned, and the following morning a flood of telephone and personal calls came to the office from



THE WEST PALM BEACH RECREATION BUS

the children. "Is our bus safe?" At the fire the first thought of everyone was, "Save the children's joy bus!"

Old Time Dances, Oxnard, California.—

For some time old time dances have been a very popular part of the program of Oxnard Community Service. During January the program was made permanent by the organization of an Old Time Dances Society with regular officers. The society has acquired and installed a public address system with four loud speaking appliances which make the calling of the dance figures a very much simpler problem. The cost of this is approximately \$200, an amount which the society has undertaken to finance by collections taken at the dances. In addition, improvements have been made to the gymnasium and cabinets have been built to take care of the loud speaking apparatus.

Memphis Initiates Negro Spiritual Contests.—Memphis joined the cities holding song contests for colored children when the Recreation Department held a contest open to all children in the grammar grades. According to the rules of the contest, it was required that every school should be represented by four singers who might be all boys, all girls or a mixed group. The musical program from each group consisted of one negro spiritual and one song number selected by the school, and a song chosen by the Recreation Department.—*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot.*

A suggested list of thirty-one spirituals was given the groups. The songs suggested for the song numbers included *Swanee River*, *Dixie*, *Carry Me Back to Ole Virginny*, *Juanita* and *Annie Laurie*.

A Field Hockey and Sports Camp.—The Mills College, California, Department of Hygiene and Physical Education will conduct a Field Hockey and Sports Camp from July 2 to July 30, 1927. Every opportunity will be given for sports and camp activities. Information may be secured from the Department, Mills College, California.

A Few of San Francisco's Activities.—The 1926 Annual Report of the San Francisco Community Service Recreation League as given by Lois Williams, Executive Secretary, contains many interesting items including the following:

Forty-two program features at the five community centers operated included dramatics, domestic arts, and sciences, art, boys' and girls' clubs, community music, folk and gymnastic classes, hikes and outings, Americanization service, observation of seasonal events, parties and dances, and Interest Clubs for men and women.

Attendance at all features—92,897.

Operating budget—\$15,366.56.

An interesting report of activities has been received from Chester Rosekrans, Executive Director of San Francisco Civic Association, which includes the following items:

One hundred and fifty-four programs were arranged, thirty-three of which were for men in the United States Navy, thirty-eight for men in the United States Army, sixty-six for inmates in hospitals and seventeen for shut-ins. Two thousand five hundred and twenty-five persons assisted on programs with a gross attendance of 41,250. The Civic League during the year assisted with Music Week, Municipal Christmas Eve Celebration and other special events.

New Activities in the Cleveland Community Centers.—A number of new activities have been introduced into the Cleveland Community Centers. Ten auction bridge classes with four instructors are being conducted in twelve centers. The membership of these classes was more than 350 adults during the first three months. The second three months will undoubtedly bring the total to 600, according to the estimate of E. J. Demson, Community Center Club Organizer. Tables and cards are provided by the Department and ten lessons are given at a fee of \$1.00. The instructor is furnished by the Department and is paid from the fee assessed. A tournament is being planned as a climax of the season.

Another interesting feature is the indoor golf school which has been started at three of the centers. By putting on a number of entertainments, the center council of five members has earned enough to buy an indoor golf-net. A fee is charged for instruction, furnished by a professional paid for his services from the fee fund. Not more than twelve are permitted in a class.

A Cooperative School Project.—An interesting book on games—*100 Favorites of El Paso Children*—is the result of a project in cooperation in the El Paso, Texas, schools. The English, Art and Physical Education Departments worked together to put into printed form these favorites as they are learned and played on the public school grounds of El Paso. Attractively printed and illustrated, the book is a splendid example of what combined effort can do.

Requiring Sports.—A number of colleges and universities are requiring sports as a part of the

regular college work. Columbia University requires all its freshmen and sophomores to play tennis, volley ball, soccer, basketball and baseball. The University of Illinois expects every man before graduation to master at least two different forms of sport suitable to later years.

Achieved by Volunteer Labor.—So great is the interest in the basketball program, conducted by the Public Board of Recreation of Sarasota, Florida, that local lumber companies and construction companies, members of the Sarasota Builders' Exchange, contributed material and labor necessary to the building of a first class basketball floor.

A Playground for Babies.—Conant Playground at Central Falls, Rhode Island, was conducted last summer as a baby center or day nursery. A barren piece of land was enclosed by a wire fence and equipped with a large sand box with a covered top, and covered baby swings. Oblong benches were placed around for the use of mothers or attendants. Only little children were allowed on the ground except in the case of the "little mothers" who came with babies to take care of. A splendid leader helped to make the ground the great success it proved to be.

Trees and shrubbery have been planted and it is hoped that the neighbors will cooperate in making the ground a more attractive place as well as a means of caring for the little children, many of whom have mothers working all day in factories.

January in Lincoln, Nebraska.—The Recreation Board of Lincoln in an attractive mimeographed report for January tells of two hiking clubs and stunts and game club for boys and girls of junior high school age, ukulele clubs with a membership of 140 for employed girls and school girls and boys, of handcraft classes whose products are given to local institutions and of the planning and promotion during the month of 22 parties and banquets, one for a group of Mexicans unable to speak in English.

"Six different groups in the city," states the report, "are working on original parties."

In San Francisco.—The annual report of the Playground Commission, of San Francisco, of which Miss Josephine Randall is superintendent, lists the following activities among its accomplishments:

A city-wide picnic on the Fourth of July for

all the city's children; swimming meets for boys and girls; a huge play day at Kezar Memorial Stadium; two track and field meets for girls; tennis tournaments for boys and girls; basketball and baseball tournaments for boys and a volley ball tournament for girls; dramatic productions at the playground field houses throughout the year; a May Festival and Spring Pageant; picnic and hiking schedules for boys and girls during the summer, and a vacation festival tournament. At the individual playgrounds there were activities of various kinds. The summer campaign maintained by the Commission proved exceedingly popular.

Forty-two nationalities were represented in the attendance at the playgrounds.

The Playground and Educational Institutions.—It has been most encouraging to find that THE PLAYGROUND is being increasingly read by students in normal schools and colleges. During the month of February, 25 new subscriptions were taken out by students at the Battle Creek College, Michigan, and 33 by students at the Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, State Normal School.

THE PLAYGROUND heartily welcomes these student readers.



Central Falls, Rhode Island

HAPPY AND SAFE

Music in Westchester County.—The plans of the Westchester County, New York, Choral Society include a festival for 1928, for which a program has already been recommended and a competition festival for 1927, as a culmination of the educational program which will be carried on this year. Under the leadership of Albert Stoessel the work of the local units will be of great musical significance and groups will be greatly strength-

ened. Many local conductors have established special classes in sight reading, rhythm and voice training.

A Calendar of Art Events.—The Community Arts Association of Santa Barbara, California, lists on its monthly calendar such events as a lecture on the Training of the Artistic Taste, a cello recital, a concert by the School of the Arts Preparatory Orchestra, a production of *He Who Gets Slapped*, a recital-lecture, a concert by a string quartet, a school concert by Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and similar events.

Recreation for Recreation Workers.—A bulletin from the Department of Playground and Recreation of Los Angeles tells of a swimming party held for recreation directors and their families. The invitation was extended through the courtesy of Major Horace R. Carter, Supervisor of Aquatics. Recreation for recreation workers is a matter of no small importance, but is frequently overlooked.

Lynchburg Goes Skating.—The Lynchburg Department of Recreation and Playground recently conducted a very successful five-mile roller skating race, for which boys sixteen years old and over were eligible. The boys skated a course which ran from the center of the city along its most beautiful avenue. Checkers were placed at streets along the way to take the order in which the contestants passed and cars followed the boys to pick up those who could not finish the race. The Department awarded a silver loving cup to the winner.

Later, a similar race was held for negro boys. The winner of this race was an excellent skater who came out so far in advance of the rest that he was able to entertain the spectators with an exhibit of fancy skating.

Winter Sports at Hanover.—The precinct of Hanover and Dartmouth College and organizations jointly appropriated \$2,000 for the upkeep of the skating, hockey and curling rinks on Faculty Pond, which is lighted at night and kept in skating condition from early in December until the middle of March. These rinks are most popular and are used by the town's people of all ages as well as by the college students. In front of the fraternity houses and dormitories, on a day set aside for the purpose, groups of students may be seen busily engaged at snow modeling.

On the golf course overlooking the lake, ski jump take-offs of varying sizes literally dot the hill side. It is the ambition of every small Hanover boy and girl to develop enough skill to jump from the big jump, which is a steel trestle affair that juts out way above the tree tops.

A Novel Contest.—The Department of Public Recreation of Winter Haven, Florida, has promoted a novel competitive event in an orange packing contest held in connection with the Orange Festival. Much interest was aroused in the contest and there were eleven entries from all parts of the county, each packing house being permitted to enter one contestant. Prizes were awarded to the winners of first, second and third places, and a loving cup was presented to the packing house whose representative won first prize.

Lakewood, Ohio, Reports Growth.—In June, 1926, Lakewood, Ohio, initiated a year-round recreation program with George E. Bickford as director of the Department of Public Recreation. Since July a new swimming pool has been constructed in one of the parks and a \$100,000 bond issue voted for a community swimming pool. A large number of new playground activities were added during the summer and the attendance increased from 68,000 to 331,000. A system of municipal athletics has been initiated. Every school plant in the city with a gymnasium is open every night in the week, and four of the plants are used as centers for home nursing, dramatics, ball room dancing, home art, music groups and gymnastic activities. Since the closing of the summer playgrounds, a program of after school and Saturday morning activities has been conducted in public and parochial schools. Much help has been given local organizations in their social recreation.

A Canadian City Sends Its Report.—The Playgrounds' Association of Hamilton, Canada, has made its annual report. Ten playgrounds were in operation during the past year and there was a substantial growth in the activities. The season has been extended to include the spring and autumn as well as summer. There were league activities in baseball, volley ball, soft ball, soccer, basketball, horseshoes and quoits. Orchestras, pageants, block parties, hiking and story hours all had their place on the program. The handcraft program was an ambitious one.

Los Angeles Discovers Need for More Playgrounds.—An extensive survey of child conditions in each of the fifteen councilmanic districts of Los Angeles, with a study of child population density, juvenile delinquency, economic conditions, public school playground facilities and the work of churches and social welfare agencies has been completed by the Playground and Recreation Department. It reveals the immediate need of at least twenty-four more municipal recreation areas.

In the so-called metropolitan sections of the city, there are now being operated by the department twenty-six play centers with three others in outlying districts. Sixteen more playgrounds are needed at the present time in the metropolitan sections and eight in the districts farther out.

Berkeley's Hiking Club.—The Berkeley, California, Hiking Club maintained by the Playground Department, has some events of unusual interest listed in its schedule for January 1 to July 1, 1927. There is, for example, the Old Clothes Dance, to which each person is invited to bring "one kind of something to eat"; Valentine and April Fool's parties; an Easter Egg Roll; attendance at the Redwood Peak Easter services; Grand-Lake Theatre Party followed by a doughnut feed; a trail clearing day; a swimming party; a mountain play and a launch ride.

"We visit France, England, Italy, Germany and Japan," is the announcement in connection with a hike entitled "Trip Around the World," and a course of food representing each country will be served.

The Hiking Club has two important committees—one on entertainments; the other on walking. Thirty-six trips and social events have been planned for the first seven months of 1927. The initiation fee is \$1.00; the dues \$1.00 a year.

Ventura County Eisteddfod.—The Fourth Annual Ventura County Eisteddfod was held in Oxnard, California, under the auspices of Community Service April 4th to 9th. The Eisteddfod movement offers opportunity for competitions in drama, music, painting, dancing, literature and other fields of art. It brings out talents and is looked forward to as an annual event for the enjoyment and education of the whole community.

New York State Grants Land.—The City of Salamanca is rejoicing over the fact that the State

has granted a tract of nine and a quarter acres of land for park and playground purposes. Following the receipt of this gift the Common Council appropriated \$1,000 toward initial development. The Salamanca Athletic Association has been organized to raise \$10,000 with which to build a War Veterans' Memorial Park and Athletic Field.

Batavia, New York Received Gift.—There is a real awakening in Batavia brought about by the generosity of a private citizen who recently presented the city with ten acres of land and a substantial sum of money for development. This land is to be used for a Community Recreation Field and Playground and is to be administered by the Board of Education. The Board has shown foresight in employing a landscape architect and plans for development are being drawn. Some of the features of the playfield will be ready this summer and with this in mind the physical director has been employed on a year round basis with an assistant to relieve him of the routine work.

Art Developments on the Pacific Coast.—In spite of all its provision for the leisure time of its citizens, Oakland, California, is still not satisfied and is now proposing a million dollar art center.

There are now in California many noteworthy art movements, San Francisco leading with two great art centers, the more recent development being the California Palace of the Legion of Honor Art Center, the gift of the late Adolph B. Spreckels and his wife. While it has been opened but two years, the interest and appreciation of the public are shown by the two million visits recorded, a large number of which were made by art students.

Los Angeles, because of the recent gift of Olive Hill, will some day have one of the finest art centers in the world, and Pasadena has plans under way for a million dollar enlargement of its present Center.

In El Paso an Art Center has been established by the Community Arts Association of Santa Barbara, that unique art promotion unit. This Association has been largely responsible in securing the use of the Spanish motif in architecture in the rebuilding of the city, and its Plans and Planting Committee aid hundreds of prospective builders in planning their houses and gardens. In its School of Art, with a faculty of twenty-nine, are

taught such subjects as music, drama, dancing, decorative and pictorial arts. Of its annual operating budget of \$80,000, \$30,000 is earned.

Open Air Concerts throughout the Year.—

The visitor to Pasadena finds the Sunday afternoon concerts one of the delightful surprises of the city. Each Sunday afternoon in the year there is held at Carmelita Park an open-air free concert to which thousands of the city's visitors and citizens throng. With few exceptions only professional artists of high standing appear on the programs. They come from Los Angeles, Hollywood, Long Beach, and elsewhere, and all give their services without charge.

The concerts present much variety, many innovations being offered from time to time. There have been costume programs, concerts of all nations, character concerts, programs by juveniles, by artists of the 'teen age, by radio luminaries and by screen celebrities.

Always the audiences are appreciative and encores are freely demanded and generously given. As a rule the concerts open with community singing, led by Mrs. Bertha Calkins, the audience joining in whole-heartedly.

The Carmelita concerts were instituted at the time of Pasadena's fiftieth anniversary celebration in 1924, and were held in the Art Institute Building in the Park. They became so popular, however, that the auditorium could not accommodate the crowds and arrangements were made to carry on the programs out of doors. They are now presented every Sunday the year 'round and constitute a definite musical treat.

Lawn Bowling.—The Municipal Lawn Bowling Association of Redlands, California, continues to grow in popularity. The membership numbers over three hundred. The greens used for bowling have been doubled in size and now have a total lawn surface of 28,800 square feet. This surface provides sixteen lanes 15 feet wide and 150 feet long. Participants in this sport are most enthusiastic.

Puppetry Classes.—A course in Puppetry for children was recently started at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas. The children have



SIX OF THE 300 MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL LAWN BOWLING ASSOCIATION, REDLANDS, CAL.

modelled all the heads of papier mache and are now painting them and making the bodies. Costumes and stage sets are being designed with the assistance of artists who have volunteered to give their time to the classes.

Houston's Matrons' Gym Class Entertains.

—The Matrons' Gym Class of Houston recently planned a get-together party. The feature of the evening which led to much merriment was the basketball game between the wives and their husbands. The actual scores are not a matter of official record but all declared the evening a huge success.

Activities in Columbus, Ohio.—Columbus, Ohio, is organizing a dramatic group under the auspices of the Division of Public Recreation. There are at present 42 members and it is hoped there will eventually be 200. The plan is to organize the members in groups of about 20 for production purposes. Facilities will be provided in the attractive auditorium and stage of the new center recently opened.

Eight schools and five gymnasiums as well as the five buildings, owned by the Division, are used as centers. One of the buildings was an old market house, remodeled last year at a cost of \$30,000 containing a good gymnasium, a large game room, showers, lockers and a small auditorium with stage.

Slow Clubs—A New-Old Idea for Recreation

By

GEORGE F. KEARNEY

There is nothing magical about the Slow Clubs. It is a healthy movement among the young people of Philadelphia to provide healthy amusement through the medium of clubs created and managed by themselves with the cooperation of existing social agencies. Some people have called it the Youth Movement expressing itself in American life. Others believe it is a breaking away from the old idea of separate clubs for the sexes toward the newer idea of a sane camaraderie between the sexes with sex barriers relegated to the background.

The story of how the Slow Clubs came into being provides an interesting commentary on American life today and offers much food for thought for people interested in recreation work among young people. It originated in the ethical column of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, inspired by a number of letters from young people who have felt out of step with the "wild parties of this jazz-mad age." Readers of ethical columns all over the country have noticed lately that the young people have been discussing the antics of the "fast ones" and the parties of the "jazz age" which have automatically eliminated those young people with more conservative home training.

In these letters there has been much discussion on the question of "necking," and "flask-toting" and "automobile parties," so glorified by modern popular fiction. Constantly the note of the "slow ones" has been struck by letters complaining that their lives have been made lonelier by their inability to make social contacts in fast-moving groups. Girls who have resented the easy familiarity of their escorts have found themselves without "dates" while boys have written in that the "times are out of joint" in an age when the average young girl showers her smiles on the "collegiate" type rather than the more conservative youngster.

As far as Philadelphia was concerned these scattered letters were focused in a note appearing

on October 30th, last, written by a lad signing himself "Dusty." It read:

Sir: I would like to know how the young fellow stands socially in these so-called wild days? I am one who is passing in looks, athletically inclined, and said to have a pleasing personality and have plenty of boy friends but few of the fairer sex. Because I can't dance, and although I dress well, I can't be extremely collegiate, nor talk nonsense as some of the so-called popular fellows do, does this say I'm "dead" or "slow"? If this is true, is that why I have so few girl friends? I wish your readers would enlighten me.

"DUSTY"

This was followed on November 5th, with the following:

Sir: Let me say to "Dusty" who is considered "too slow" I consider your sentiments to be very sensible. I'll tell you how the average fellow, such as you describe, stands in my opinion. He is some one to be admired, and that is really saying a great deal in what you term these "wild times." Wouldn't it be lovely if we could start a club of just such persons—those who do not go to extremes in everything? What shall we call it?

ROSE MARIE

Then the fun started. The Evening Bulletin received an avalanche of letters from young people endorsing the idea of Rose Marie's club. Finally, a boy secured permission to use the auditorium of the Haddington Public Library and announced his meeting of a "Slow Club" in the ethical column of The Bulletin.

Instead of a handful, as was expected, the auditorium was jammed to the doors with young men and women eager to enlist under this curious title. "Rose Marie" made her appearance and proved to be a nineteen-year-old stenographer. Rose Marie is a steadfast church member with conservative ideas about dancing and sociability. Although she is a deft dancer of the "Charleston"

she carries out her idea of "not going to extremes in everything" in her everyday life. "Dusty" is a nineteen-year-old high school student.

They formed an executive committee and invited the head librarian of the library to be chairman of their entertainment committee. This librarian, Miss Helen H. Morrow, spoke even better than she knew when she told them that she hoped they would run their own club and manage their own programs, but that she would be upstairs to help them if they needed her.

Soon these clubs formed in all sections of the city. The Evening Bulletin, while thoroughly aware of the condition that inspired these clubs, took the same attitude as Miss Morrow. Willing to cooperate with this fast-growing movement, the newspaper did not attempt to make it a circulation stunt but stood by encouraging the recruiting of membership in the chapters in all sections of the city.

The name "Slow Club" bothered everyone at the beginning and the young people started a poll among their members for a better name, but none so catchy and interesting was found. Suggestions were made such as: *Young Peoples' Uplift League, Fellowship Society and Clean Club*, but they were all awkward and unappealing.

As the movement developed the young people became more proud of their name and more loath to change it to one more expressive of their ideals.

Now, did the Slow Club enlist the shy, the backward, the impossible or the "under-privileged"—to use a much worn phrase among social workers? To the astonishment of all it recruited the very highest types of youngsters, who had lost contact with an age of dance halls, automobile parties and "necking" parties. The girls were especially of a high type, some with bruised point of view, while the boys are the more serious-minded youngsters eager for self-expression.

Today in Philadelphia there are twenty-eight chapters with a membership close on to 15,000. These chapters split into clubs, meeting on special nights, which combine their activities in weekly meetings. The dramatic club rehearses a play during the week and presents it on the meeting night. The debating team prepares a debate, the glee club a few songs. Then there are hiking clubs, camera clubs, girls' and boys' athletic clubs, literary clubs and all the activities which recreation leaders have dreamed of as an ideal combination for their recreation centers.

There has been no tendency revealed to flout

existing social agencies and generally these agencies have been sympathetic with the young peoples' point of view.

The point of view of the recreation centers, and particularly the libraries, has required less adjustment than in the case of more developed social agencies. As a self-expressive movement, the young people have developed faster in self-managed groups than with directed clubs. It is curious, however, to note that the young people have never attempted to exclude older people from their meetings and most of their dances and hikes have had invited chaperones.

The organization meetings and rallies of these chapters have been enthusiastic affairs and over 70,000 young people of all ages have attended them and listened attentively to the ideals of saner living presented, not by lectures, but by young speakers and people with a youthful point of view.

They have played games at their meetings and have had song-fests but they are better when they are led by the young people themselves. In fact, the city-wide executive committee of young leaders have developed song leaders' and play leaders' institutes themselves in order to teach those of their own number who are showing leadership qualifications.

Now, there will be many directors of social agencies who will ask, "Why doesn't this happen naturally with the young people in our clubs?" The answer is, "It will if you study their point of view and relegate your leadership to the background where it belongs."

In my travels as a reporter of this movement for The Evening Bulletin, I have found universal cooperation with social leaders who have quickly readjusted their own standards to this new-old idea. In the case of my own newspaper we have assured every one of these groups that we are not trying to run them, direct them or boss them and this attitude has proved a universal friend-maker. The Evening Bulletin dominates the field in Philadelphia with a daily circulation of 537,000 copies and we do not regard this as a circulation builder as much as we do a distinct social service to the community. We are reporting each meeting as so much "news" and we find the column widely read by our readers, who are constantly writing in letters of suggestion, criticism and extravagant praise. We are also keenly aware that if we started bossing around these young people we would lose their devotion and their confidence.

One distinct feeling about social agencies as

they are operated today has been borne in upon me. It seems that many of them have tried to meet the jazz point of view. Their dances have imitated the professional dance hall and they have not had the facilities to make their program as attractive as the dance hall with its glistening lights, shining floors and well-developed orchestras.

The Slow Club members know what they can get in a dance hall—and I am not one of those who can hold up my hands in holy horror at the average dance hall—but they are looking for something better. It must be remembered that the old-time literary institutes, debating and dramatic clubs fell by the wayside during the war-time period and those elements do not exist in the modern city in a very flourishing condition. These clubs have put into expression just these impulses.

We are rapidly learning that the Slow Clubs cannot flourish on sociability alone. The dancers drop by the wayside. A "date" breaks the continuity of their attendance whereas if there is an interesting program on hand at the Slow Club they take their "dates" along to the meetings.

Just where this movement will end is purely a matter of conjecture. As far as Philadelphia is concerned, we feel that it has only started and we are looking forward to some 50 chapters reaching over 30,000 permanent membership with over 100,000 young people as onlookers and curiosity-seekers. Stories of this club have been sent out by the Associated Press and it would not be very strange to see similar clubs started in other large cities throughout the United States. This will not be a sudden growth, it may take two years, but the initial impulse is there. In the summer-time these chapters will stop their indoor meetings and will develop into hiking and picnic clubs on Saturday afternoons.

At the present time the movement is entering a new phase with the development of special groups interested in particular activities. For instance, there is an Art and Sketching Chapter composed of fifty members especially interested in the study of art. They meet at the Graphic Sketch Club where they are provided free instruction in free-hand drawing and also lectures on art and frequent trips through the art galleries of the city.

A Talent Chapter has organized in a library club-room for the special study of poetry. Each member brings his or her own verse to read and to be discussed by all those present around a table. They have issued a mineograph volume of their

poetry and are now conducting a prize contest for the best original poem read at the meetings.

Then there is an intermediate chapter, for older young people between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-five. The average age of the Slow Club membership is around twenty years and the older ones feel out of place in these younger groups. The older people have also swung into line with a Social Club for Older People, which has held old-fashioned dances with much success.

Perhaps the most curious group, from a social standpoint, is the Tall Chapter which meets weekly at the North Building Y. M. C. A. This is composed of young people of unusual height who feel shy when dancing with shorter partners. To the astonishment of everyone the "Tall Ones" turned out four hundred strong and they are now one of the most thriving chapters in the group.

Then there is a special dramatic and literary section, an informal group meeting at a women's club in which everyone takes part in the program. Under the tactful leadership of an experienced elocutionist everyone comes to the meeting with a short "stunt" which is received with much appreciation, entertainment and amusement.

Another interesting phase of this movement is the number of original plays written by the members and produced entirely by them. It is the spirit of the movement to do things in double-quick time. A play written one week will be produced at the next meeting with the audiences roaring at the mistakes made by the young actors. The dramatic groups usually start off with a minstrel show, then a brisk musical revue and finally a more serious sketch or play.

It can be easily seen that the background of the movement is cultural with a strong trend toward games and unusual dances as a substitute for a three-hour-dance program. The young people are explaining that the modern dances, such as the "Black Bottom" are physically tiring and they are eager to come back to refreshing games and folk dances that are run off, not as a whole night program, but in a brief half-hour. Just how far this side of the creative work of the clubs will develop is still to be decided by the wishes of the young people themselves. A horse-back riding club has appeared in one chapter, a camera club in another and a Jewish conversational club has been developed in a chapter meeting in the Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association. It is truly a case of where no one knows what next this strenuous generation will produce.

In this rather hasty review of the ramified activities of the Slow Club there are many elements that remind one of the Youth Movement of Germany. Social workers in this country are apt to idealize the *Freideutsch Jugendbewegung* as the savior or creator of a new civilization. In its essence it is merely an expression of German youth's distaste for the rigid program of play provided for them in the gymnasiums before the war, and the character of national life which this system of play created.

There is a disposition among students of the *Freideutsch Jugendbewegung* to glorify the cultural side of their program, particularly the *Studentenhilfe* movement with its creation of impromptu colleges. In England this impulse among the young people following the war was absorbed by the Workers' Education Association, while in America this same movement has been expressing itself in the overwhelming numbers of applicants to our colleges.

If ever the Youth Movement of America is to be expressed in clubs such as the Slow Clubs of Philadelphia and vicinity (and the young people themselves are not eager to press the name on the rest of the country) it will come from beneath and not from any elaborate campaign.

Several who have read Mr. Kearney's manuscript have pointed out that the kind of leadership which Mr. Kearney is advocating is after all leadership of the ablest kind, that which keeps itself in the background and appears as little as may be necessary, leaving as much as possible to the initiative and the resourcefulness of the young people themselves. All who are experienced in the problems of modern recreation leadership will agree as to the necessity of trying to encourage as much spontaneity as possible and leaving the utmost freedom for the development of movements of this kind.—EDITOR.



At Northwestern Playfield, Detroit

Northwestern Field, one of the two hundred centers conducted by the Detroit Department of Recreation, is not open to the charge of "inactivity."

In the Summer

Baseball, soccer, tennis, horseshoe pitching, playground ball, volley ball, track events, field hockey, lacrosse, cricket, Reserve Officers' Training Corps drill, band drill, marble contests, handball, city wide kite day, cross country run and bowling on the green are among the activities enumerated.

During 1926 thirty-one baseball leagues were scheduled, the largest of which had sixteen teams. The crowds accommodated at these games ranged from a few hundred to 25,000. Soccer, too, proved very popular. There were two games a day in the school league, three days a week and four games on Sunday for the Western Soccer Association, with teams practicing every night in the week. Two soccer fields are available during the fall and spring.

The fourteen tennis courts at the playfield had a busy season in 1926, taking care of over 60,000 players in a period of six months. Six clay horseshoe pitching courts were constantly in use day and night.

A half dozen leagues in playground ball, two teams of volley ball players kept these diamonds busy, while the three field hockey fields used by high schools and intermediate schools, the lacrosse and cricket fields had their full quota.

Noon was a thrilling time at the field when the Northwestern High School Unit of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps drilled and the Northwestern Band played each day.

The marble contest with 500 entries was held at Northwestern, as was the annual kite day, in which 200 home made kites competed. Four tournaments were conducted by the Bowling Club and there was bowling every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons and evenings from 3 to 10 p. m. The thirteen rinks were well patronized.

In the fall there are many football games on the two gridirons taking care of the high school games, Catholic High School Games, Recreation League Games and many others.

Leisure and Life*

FREDERICK KEPPEL, LL.D.,

President, Carnegie Corporation

Two years ago I urged you recreationists not to forget that both adult education and an appreciation of the fine arts are absolutely essential factors in the job of seeing that each community provides its own balanced rations for leisure time consumption. As I remember it, I was rather solemn about the whole thing and tried to impress the point that all of us who were interested in any part of the leisure time problem would have to work together if we were to get anywhere.

That is all true today—just as true as it was then—and the need for remembering it grows greater with every hour that is clipped from the working week; with every labor-saving device which makes the workers' working hours more monotonous, and by the same token, every invention that makes household work less time-consuming and less interesting.

A number of what seem to me to be significant things are happening in what we might call the debatable land between organized recreation on one hand and formal education on the other. I think I see signs in your program this week that things are edging little by little over toward the educational end. And all over the country interesting things are happening—little museums are being set up now in the national parks. I read a week or so ago of very important concerts which were being held in the Library of Congress. If our moving pictures are not getting better as fast as some of us would like, the music that accompanies them is certainly getting better. So is the decoration, so is the architecture of the theatres. The radio, which started purely as a time consumer, is taking a very distinct educational tinge. And right here in Atlantic City, one of these piers is to have, I understand, a first rate art gallery as part of its attractions. That would not have occurred to anybody ten years ago.

Two years ago recreation was already integrated through these Congresses of the Playground and Recreation Association. Any community that wanted to develop a recreation program knew just where to turn—knew where to turn for good

advice based on real experience. Contrast that with the situation in adult education at that time. There were about three million people who were engaged in one way or another in study outside of working hours. We didn't find that out until afterward, but there were that number of people. The whole thing was utterly unorganized. Each student and each teacher saw just his little corner, his little type of study and his interest and his knowledge didn't go an inch beyond that point.

In these two years, two things have happened that are, I think, worth your attention.

In the first place, a reliable body of information about adult education in all its manifestations has been gathered together. Now, if any of you want that information in solid scholarly form, you can get the books which Macmillan Company is publishing—a series of books on adult education beginning this fall. If, as is possibly the case, you prefer this as a dessert course rather than a meat course, provided there is an adequate number of calories in it, watch this winter for a series of articles that Dorothy Canfield is writing in *McCall's Magazine*.

A corporation, of which I am the executive, was engaged in this work and I had a terrible feeling toward the close of the time. We had such an immense amount of information and we had to do just what everybody else or nearly everybody else does on such occasions. We had spent a lot of money and taken a great deal of trouble in converting the converted, and so I had what I think was the brilliant idea of turning over all this material to Mrs. Fisher—Dorothy Canfield—who was greatly excited about it and has proceeded to produce these most interesting and stimulating articles. I have read some of them in manuscript.

First, as I say, we now know something about adult education—what it means, how it develops and where it is being carried forward.

The second thing is that a nation-wide organization, The American Association for Adult Education, has been formed and the men and women who are in that organization are really representative of all the different factors—the libraries, the university extensions, the municipal universities,

*Address given at Recreation Congress, Atlantic City, N. J., October 21, 1926.

the developments of the public school system, night schools, and so on; labor union classes, the shop classes—in fact the whole field.

I don't think there is any important part of adult education that is not represented. They are all in it—the big and the little ones; the conservative, safe and sane ones and the radical ones. They have chosen as their head Dean Russell of Teachers College in New York, who I think deserves the reputation he has of always thinking of things about five years ahead of the other fellows. I think it is a very good augury that he has been willing to take on this added load. And they have a body of directors who would have been forgiven if they had decided that their whole function was to shine as a galaxy of stars. But as a matter of fact, they have taken off their coats and rolled up their sleeves. There are ladies among the directors and I think they still wear sleeves. They are all working as a team.

Those two things mean, I think, that recreation and adult education can now for the first time, work together. They can work at the center of things in the core of their own organizations. And I assure you there is a good deal of hard work and hard thinking to be done before we arrive at any worthwhile body of doctrine as to this matter of the use of leisure time. They can also work out on the firing line—in the communities themselves.

There are a number of interesting things happening now. The city of Cleveland and the city of Buffalo—both of these towns are engaged in a process of rather careful self-study. You see interesting manifestations in Indianapolis, in Milwaukee, in Cincinnati and further west in Portland and Los Angeles. Perhaps not quite to the same extent, but the same thing is happening in the smaller towns.

I have been told that the reason the citizens of Santa Barbara handled themselves so well and so efficiently after the earthquake was because the town had been already integrated by their Community Art Association. As time goes on, all of these communities, the urban and the rural and whatever communities are between them, will be looking for guidance and looking for help. So I look forward to seeing the Playground and Recreation Association and this group of people interested in adult education, working shoulder to shoulder.

The development in the fine arts—and there I want to speak rather of a genuine appreciation of the arts rather than the creation of art, which

is another question—has been somewhat different, but it is almost equally significant.

Of course, you all know about the little theatre movement and how important that is in communities. Don't forget that it is an art movement as well as everything else and that it has a very distinct place in this picture.

Then we have the American Federation of Arts, which has its headquarters in Washington, and has its chapters all over the country. It has its traveling exhibitions and nowadays these traveling exhibitions of paintings have become one of the chief features at the state fairs of the Northwest. After people have seen the prize bull and all the other features, they go and look at some pictures. That would not have been possible ten years ago.

The women's organizations, both the national ones and the local ones, have done some amazing things in creating an interest in the arts. But personally I think that the most interesting thing that has happened in these last few years has been in the colleges. A generation ago, I think I am safe in saying, not more than a handful of the graduates went back into their communities with any abiding sense of the place that the arts ought to take in a normal, human life. Today, young people are going back with that sense literally by the thousands. They are going back to their communities, and if they don't find the interests they have come to need, we are going to hear from them.

While I have been going on this way, I have been wondering a little as to what has been going on in your minds, and I asked myself whether some of you, at any rate, haven't been saying to yourselves, "This man is indulging, in the current phrase, in wishful thinking." Mr. Shakespeare referred to it as the wish being father to the thought. At any rate, there is the possibility that some of you may agree with my friend, Hendrik Van Loon, who has written a long magazine article to prove that the number of men and women who need any help at all, who have been led to any real interest and real appreciation of the arts of learning, is quite negligible.

Well, now, before we come to any conclusion on that point, I want to carry your minds back eight years. That was the time when America had the most acute leisure time problem in our whole history. We had two million American soldiers in France and we had only so many boats in which to transport them back to the United States. I believe we had a pretty serious situation. The excitement was over. Some of the old-timers

in the army thought the solution would be drill. So they proceeded to drill men who had just come out of the Argonne, with wooden guns on parade grounds outside the French villages. But it did not work. As a matter of fact, there were some incidents which came pretty close to being mutiny.

Things were going from bad to worse and the thing that saved the day was the development in France of a recreation and education program. And I ought to say that the education program included the fine arts. As you will recall, the whole thing was entirely voluntary. No soldier needed to do any of those things. But, as a matter of fact, one quarter of a million young American men chose education as their form of relaxation, as their solution of the very acute leisure time problem that faced them.

Now, that same quarter of a million, or nearly all of them, and their younger brothers and sisters, are the people whom we all have to think of in our communities today. So that I, for one, am pretty sure that we haven't tapped as yet the possibilities of adult education, of contact with the arts, nor, indeed, of any form of wholesome recreation. We have in our perfectly amazing economic leeway, an opportunity that no country has ever had before.

Curiously enough, the first people to discover that Americans were willing to pay, and pay pretty handsomely, for the use of their own spare time, were the commercial correspondence schools. One of the things we discovered in our study was that those schools received annually in fees something over one hundred million dollars. Some of the work they do is excellent; a great deal of it is excellent. Some of them are fakers. But the point I am trying to get at is that not only are our hours of work so much shorter, but the opportunity for not only the kindly folk who have some money to spare for other people is a great one, but that the people themselves whom we want to reach are perfectly ready to chip in and do their full share in paying for anything that they, themselves, think is worth while.

The innocence and completeness with which the child's spirit is rendered up to the book, its utter absorption and forgetfulness, always move me deeply. A child does not read to criticise or compare, but just in the unsullied joy of finding itself in a new world.

—CHRISTOPHER MORLEY.

From the Detroit Educational Bulletin for March, 1927.

Salt Lake City Reports for 1926

The 1926 report of the Salt Lake City Recreation Department, of which Charlotte Stewart is superintendent, contains a strong appeal for an increased budget.

"It cost as much last summer," says Miss Stewart in her report, "to oil Salt Lake City streets as it did to keep ten playgrounds in operation for the same period of time. It cost as much to put in street parkings, water and cut the grass on the same as it did to furnish recreational participation to 200,000 people. It cost as much to keep a detention home for a few boys and girls as it would to keep twice that number from ever entering a detention home.

"Would not that slogan, 'Salt Lake a Safe Place for Children,' and 'No Children Killed on the Streets of Salt Lake Because There Are Adequate Play Facilities' be worth \$10,000 to the advertising campaign of the Commercial Club? Yet many of the lives lost through street play could be saved by the expenditure of that sum."

Following the appeal for a larger budget, Miss Stewart very effectively makes use of the "Fundamentals" issued by the P. R. A. A., using each point as a measuring rod to show where Salt Lake City has made progress or where it has failed to measure up to standards.

Help Wanted!

The following advertisement appeared in an issue of the "Yonkers, New York, Statesman":

HELP WANTED: ONE GOOD CITIZEN!

The city is in the market for an able-bodied, able-minded citizen of Yonkers to replace William Cronin, resigned, upon the Community Service Commission.

Applicant must be alert, sympathetic, able to attend all meetings, must like boys and girls, know a little about recreation and a lot about Yonkers, be old enough to understand the value of money and young enough to understand the value of play.

Salary: The respect and appreciation of his fellow citizens and the affection of twenty thousand children.

No loafers need apply.

More Athletics, Fewer Crimes*

By

HONORABLE JOHN T. MCGOVERN,

*A Director of the Public School Athletic League,
Member of the Field Staff of the Carnegie
Foundation, and Honorary Officer of the
American Olympic Committee.*

This address deals with certain experiences and facts which suggest a partial solution of problems affecting the elimination of crime and criminal tendencies at the source, through the medium of athletics. The discussion must omit certain types of crime and the treatment thereof.

We cannot here with value discuss crimes which are the result of disease, insanity or malnutrition. This field belongs to the physician or surgeon.

It is useless here also to discuss crimes which result from jealousy, envy, personal hatred or suspicion. No one has yet hinted at any comprehensive cure of those impulses. Here we are to consider crimes committed for gain, and crimes which are committed as a result directly or indirectly of the life habit and environment normally connected with careers devoted to crime for gain.

In our field, therefore, we will consider the crimes of larceny, burglary, embezzlement, with their attendant or resultant crimes of assault, manslaughter and murder.

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE COMMIT CRIMES?

The first question to be asked and answered is: Who is it that commits these crimes?—How old is he?—Where does he come from?—What does he know?—What are his habits?—What is his environment?—Why did he begin?—Why does he continue?

What is going to stop him is another and later question. Now, as to age: Let us omit the village from consideration. Our type of crime concerns more particularly the large cities. The age of your first offender here has diminished. In the larger communities it averages under the age of twenty-two. Your first offender is not the mature man who is a failure, poor, depressed and hungry. He is rather a young man who has not that atmosphere of hope, ideals and sanguine confidence which is the normal companion of youth. That

is on the face of it a tragic picture; but from the side of solution it may be better than it appears, for were crime increase confined to the mature man the situation might be hopeless. It is, as a practicable matter, impossible to change the habits, point of view, or moral perspective of the grown-up. Our offender, therefore, is a young man; and he is also an intelligent one and of good habits, as the world conceives them.

Clark University has a bureau devoted to the study of the statistics of crime and criminals. Its latest bulletin states that the average mentality of the first offender is higher than that of the average non-criminal. Bright as compared with his brothers, not as compared with a Bernard Shaw or a Will Rogers. Granted he may be weak-willed; but he is brighter, has more information, has quicker mental reflexes and greater initiative and imagination than his innocent companions. He is of course contrasted only with those of his same environment. Moreover, the second and subsequent offender progresses up the scale of mentality. The second offender passes a better examination in feats of intelligence than the first offender, and so on.

On the question of habits, great prisons tell us that the criminal is temperate, if not totally abstemious; and that as his career as a criminal continues his habits get better. He realizes that to be a successful criminal he must keep himself fit.

On the subject of previous condition, over ninety per cent. of the inhabitants of state prisons have had some religious training and most of them are born in this country. These statements may be surprising, but they are reliable. They are not so strange when you come to think it over, because the criminal has society as a whole—with its resources and organization—against him, and he simply finds he has to be bright and fit. It takes a keen eye to forge, a steady hand to unravel a combination and a quick foot to escape the clutches of the police.

*Address delivered before Association of the Bar of the City of New York, December 9, 1926. Published by courtesy of the Bar Association.

For the purpose of this discussion, therefore, we can assume that neither in religious teaching, the encouragement of sobriety, nor in popular education can be found the solution. We have those blessings more than has almost any other nation. We cannot blame it on the immigrants, for it is those born right here with the foregoing described advantages that are the majority of our criminals.

Assuming these eliminations to be sound, we ask what makes this comparatively bright native-born boy become a criminal; and what are we going to do about it? The answer is, he is a criminal because our congested communities furnish him with an environment, living conditions and opportunities which make a criminal career the most entertaining, absorbing and profitable for him to adopt. What will stop his becoming a criminal is a change in his environment, which will make an innocent and law-abiding career more fascinating, more happy, more absorbing than the other. We all do what we want to do so far as we can, and we want to do those things which are the easiest, the happiest and the most gainful. That is human nature, which we will always have and can never change.

DAY'S ORDERS OF A POTENTIAL CRIMINAL

Let us look at the daily life of the boy in the congested communities. He gets up in the morning and goes to the public school. The law makes him. Good enough. He is not a criminal while in the schoolroom. He goes to church on proper occasions. That's good, too. He has his meals at home. Good. But what does society do for him at other hours, at the only time when he is free to do what he likes? Well, it makes him live in alleyways, streets, poolrooms, on the docks, in car-barn yards. There is where he learns the fundamentals of a criminal career from his older brothers, who are quick to use the bright boys as apprentices.

Now, here is where the associations of public-spirited men have stepped in, and are doing what I consider the greatest work yet undertaken to save the boy for himself and his community and his generation. Associations such as the Public School Athletic League of the City of New York have lifted the boy out of evil environments and are making law-abiding citizens in amazing numbers and with amazing results. The results obtained by the work of these associations, and particularly of the City of New York, have so impressed nations abroad that Germany and England are making mandatory law the activities now

carried on and established by public-spirited citizens in the City of New York some twenty years ago.

The Public Schools Athletic League of the City of New York agitates for playgrounds, armories, swimming pools, skating rinks, running tracks, tennis courts, football fields for the use of the public school boy. It connects up with the schools by cooperation with the City Government. Through its twenty years of development it has reached a point where 600,000 New York school children—from elementary to high school—are daily training, playing and competing, under trained supervision and with equipment for use; and models, exhibitions, cups, tournaments, championships and trophies for rewards. Just revolve that in your mind! During the time you are sitting here, or listening on the radio, probably two hundred thousand (200,000) New York City boys are engaged in some sort of competitive athletic play. And mind you there is no distinction as to race, color or religious prejudice. These athletic meetings of our public school boys are the only real democratic social gesture we make.

EFFECT OF ATHLETICS UPON THE BOYS' LIFE

Now, you ask: Granting all this, what has it to do with the solution of crime. Well, this: You know you cannot stop a boy who has no social instinct from degenerating. There is no hope for him, young or old, rich or poor. On the other hand, a boy with a social instinct that has healthy opportunities for development will never become a criminal. He is too happy in his normal social environment to think of it.

Once you enroll him at, say, eleven years of age as a member of the elementary school, seventy-pound relay team, you will note he wants that team to win. He wants the personal glory of victory, and he is exalted at the thought that he has the number of the school on his shirt. His classmates watch him carefully. For his own success, and to avoid the criticism of his mates, he has to keep fit and to practice regularly. So he brushes his teeth, takes baths, and goes to bed at ten o'clock with his window open. He is inspected as to his heart action, his lungs, his eyes, his teeth. He is in a healthy avocation; he is thrilled and happy. He begins to look forward. He wants to stay in school long enough to get on the high school teams; and later in high school, he looks forward to winning his letter at some university. He has learned the spirit of cooperation, of team work. He has developed an esprit de corps. He

realizes he has become a symbol of something not priced in money but more desirable.

And so your little elementary public school athlete of today becomes the statesman of tomorrow. That's the catch expression we use in England and Germany today: "The athlete of today is the statesman of tomorrow."

The head of the Reform School at Elmira is of the opinion that any boy who comes to him early enough, and who will enter cheerfully into the Reform School system of games and other social contacts, can be saved and cured. On the other hand, no boy who refuses to play with the others, he says, should be freed, because that type of boy will go back again to furtive, secret and dangerous pursuits.

The Chief Justice of the Criminal Bench at Baltimore—the man who sentenced Whittemore—stated to me last month that he had made a survey of those sentenced by him, and had not yet discovered one who as a schoolboy has taken part in athletic competition. This is all the result of a happy change in the boy's environment. He does not now go to the poolroom, the alley or the car-barns for social contact. When he leaves his school daily, he now goes to an armory, a swimming pool, a hockey rink, a football field; all free! He finds there equipment, instruction and companions. He puts on his uniform with its symbolic insignia. He lets out the normal excess vitality of his youth in healthy, noisy, vigorous, glorious play. He senses the opportunity for individual success, with its attendant praise. He sees his name and photograph in the school, and sometimes in the city papers. He finds to have this he needs to have skill in his games and to be in good physical condition, and to be free from the fatigue of late nights and bad habits. He begins to visualize himself as an ambassador of his school, his city, his country.

Of course, these practice afternoons would be drudgery if there were not a goal ahead. However, they lead up to tests, preliminary competitions and finally championship contests, with his school arrayed in battle with all the other schools of the city and elsewhere. There is a constant incentive to continued effort and improvement. The boy learns that his skill will later be viewed by parents, relatives, friends, officials and judges; that bands will play, cheers will be given, and medals will be awarded.

The great point for us is that the boy, once a competitor, becomes converted permanently to this healthy course of conduct. You cannot suggest

smoking, drinking or late hours to these boys. They are wise enough to know that such habits mean loss of skill and endurance, with the consequent failure to win medals or applause. Any suggestion to such a boy to substitute a career of petty larceny, drug peddling or pocket-picking would be greeted either by derisive laughter or that forcible type of critical metaphor for which our youth has an extraordinary capacity. It might indeed lead to a fight with the odds greatly in favor of our athletic young Galahad.

A logical conclusion is that if you give to every schoolboy of New York City, Chicago and other large cities, a free place to play, an equipment, an instructor, and a trophy or a medal to strive for, you will not have many young criminals to grow up into matured offenders.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY PROMOTE ATHLETICS

Forty and more English schools, representing twenty and more counties, compete against each other annually at Stamford Bridge and Queens Club. Thousands go to see them, and they have a mighty happy day of it.

England and Germany now regard the school-boy recreational movement as the greatest present bulwark against anarchy. The athletic schoolboy is too happy and patriotic, and far too absorbed to have time or inclination for incendiary political thought. There is no neurasthenic, depressive philosophy in that boy's mind. Germany has gone ahead of us all in this field. She has passed mandatory legislation which compels municipalities to condemn a suitable amount of space for playing fields in each community, in proportion to the population. She is establishing a university to instruct 4,000 students on the subject of games and physical education. They take a four-year course, get a degree, and somewhat like West Point men, go out as commissioned officers to take charge of the various municipal playing fields and equipment. Only competitive games are taught—usually those requiring team work; and all boys between ten and twenty years will be compelled to devote certain hours a day to play. In Germany now, cities of less than 200,000 population have greater spaces and equipment than all New York or Chicago.

England is following Germany's plan. Already Oxford has given 50,000 acres to schoolboys for cricket, soccer, etc. Today in Oxford, you may witness the supposed sacrilege of games being played on their sacred university fields by the boys of the neighborhood, without respect to caste or kind. Although we are pioneers in the move-

ment, we are behind in definite national programs for progress. But we are not asleep, and federal, state and municipal organizations have been formed and are gaining rapidly the support of public opinion.

It all means that there is a growing world-wide opinion, that through the spreading of improved physical care and development of the schoolboy by competitive play, we will do much to bring humanity toward peaceful and cheerful thinking and living. It will do much to bring us constantly a higher culture and a nobler civilization.

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The Municipal Men's Club at Los Angeles

The attractive and beautifully illustrated report of the Department of Playground and Recreation of Los Angeles for 1925-26 describes among many other facilities the Municipal Men's Club, a novel project which is performing a much needed service. Its purpose is to provide recreation and social activities for the man on the street at a nominal cost.

Organized in September, 1919, the club has grown so in patronage that in November, 1925, it became necessary to secure larger quarters. The building now occupied, which has recently been purchased, is ideally located in the downtown business section. The building is of brick three stories high with a spacious basement.

The basement is reached from the street by a wide stairway and presents first a long well-lighted room, the forepart of which is equipped with chairs and tables for cards and checkers. These facilities and lounging places are available without charge. In the same room, there are seven well-appointed pool tables for the use of which the service charge is $2\frac{1}{2}$ c per cue.

Opening off the main room are well equipped lavatory and toilet rooms done in white tile, with all plumbing and lighting fixtures thoroughly in keeping with modern standards. There are ten shower baths in mottled marble with separate individual rooms for dressing. The service charge for bath towels and soap is ten cents. These privileges are available from 6 a. m. to 11 p. m. and

the men make use of them almost to capacity from opening to closing time.

The first or ground floor consists of two rooms running the full length of the building. One is now used as a store, but on lease expiration will be adapted to club needs. The other is equipped as a reading room and is supplied with books and current magazines by the city library. There is seldom an hour during the day when more than one hundred men cannot be seen occupying seats in this room and resting or reading. This service is free to the men.

On the second floor is the manager's office and club rooms. A monthly membership fee of fifty cents is charged for club privileges, including the use of the library, gymnasium, showers, lavatory and toilet facilities and a game and lounging room. Chess and checkers receive a vast amount of attention, players of nation-wide reputation meeting from time to time in tournaments or individual contest. Club equipment includes a kitchen on this floor, and coffee and hot dog feeds frequently finish an impromptu club talent entertainment, in which groups gather around the piano for a song. There are also two lodge halls in the building which are kept available for rental to organizations. The revenue derived from the use of these halls makes the club a nearly self-supporting institution. Various foreign groups such as Mexicans, Slavonians, Spaniards, Germans and Japanese use the space and from time to time organization dances are given.

The third floor is devoted to a gymnasium with locker rooms, showers and a lodge room. Gymnasium classes are conducted throughout the year including noon-day business men's classes twice a week. A heavy basketball schedule during the season has always been a feature. Volley ball and indoor baseball are also popular; weight-lifting, wrestling and apparatus work all have their devotees.

A recent innovation by request has been a twice a week gymnasium class at 5:30 p. m. for business girls, sponsored by the Athletic Department of the Bureau of Water and Power.

The club is used daily by more than 3,400 men. The administrative staff consists of one manager, one assistant manager, two pool hall attendants, two janitors and two bath attendants (part time as needed). It is the policy of the department to operate this club on a nearly self-supporting basis.

Singing Mothers*

By

IVAH EVERETT DEERING

San Diego, California

This is a simple story of plain folks and it tells of an experiment in recreation for adults so ordinary that it seems to have been overlooked in the general discussion of play. Yet, this effort, like most successful programs where mothers are concerned, began inside a group in a natural way and grew slowly, and often painfully to its present place of permanency.

An open fire is crackling, the director is at the piano, about which are gathered six women in house dresses, eyes intent on the music in hand. "My dear Mary," says our Director, "can't you stress that note a bit? You can't be heard and your part is important in the general effect, you know! And Sue, quiet down, you flatted there and threw us off—there! Fine! Great! I won't be ashamed of you any place. That's all, now; let's talk." And in another moment the piano is still, lights out, cushions on floor, and years drop away as seven women are caught by the lure of the firelight.

For a time no word is spoken. Then, someone says, "I had the strangest dream last night!" And the talk is on! One is studying Psychiatry and an animated argument follows the dream story as the theories of Freud are mentioned, new to most, but listened to, weighed and discussed with the intelligence of experience.

From that, the subject swings to problems of childhood, so difficult when handled alone, so much more simple when accepted as universal problems not limited to ourselves. Here in the atmosphere of firelight and quiet comradeship, it is easy to bring out these thoughts so near our hearts yet so often pushed down to distress us. The talk veers to ambitions, and the most surprising dreams and desires come tumbling out, timidly at first, more boldly when the sympathetic comprehension of the others is felt. But the time grows late. Someone suggests a cup of chocolate, or perhaps a bit of candy; then with reluctance this group separates, thoughtfully, perhaps, with

hearts warmed by friendship into a glow that carries over into the week of home duties ahead.

We are seven women; six of us are home-keepers and mothers. Three years ago, although all living within a radius of four blocks, each was totally unaware of the existence of the others.

Then the P. T. A. of the school which all of our children attended, sent out a call for help. On a benefit program, a plantation number was needed and the preference was for a group of songs by women.

One of us who was lonely grasped this beautiful excuse to get acquainted. She could sing, but only a little. She did, however, possess that American quality—Nerve. So she began to listen, as she travelled to the corner store, for women's voices—high, low, medium. When three were located, this daring soul called upon each singer, and, in a spirit of fun, offered the suggestion that we get together and attempt to provide that plantation number. Each one rose to the occasion and with much trepidation, but more laughter, we tried out together to see if our voices harmonized. We decided they would not be too painful. Then, still in the burlesque spirit, we all scouted and soon had a double quartet. With no leader, we worked up a short turn and appeared in blackface, semi-minstrel makeup to offset deficiencies in tone and finish.

That was the beginning of the Spinet Neighborhood Chorus. When the program was over and time for disbanding came, the idea was impossible. We had had so much real fun from our singing that we wanted to go on. But it was a new thing and each of us had many home duties. For the first few months, each member had to be reminded of time and place. We chose simple music, and often talked and laughed more than we sang, for the minstrel spirit seemed to hold over into subsequent meetings. Then, too, other organizations asked a repetition of the program. But we came together once a week and always went home feeling rested. Occasionally a change in personnel was made, since San Diego is a town of shifting population and since some thought we were too

*Awarded Second Prize in Harmon-Survey Quarterly Award on the Use of Leisure. Published by courtesy of the Survey.

frivolous and did not take music seriously enough. But we were always six in number and gradually through continued contact worked out an understanding of each other that brought us to the point of analyzing our purpose. This we did about the open fire one night nearly two years ago.

"Shall we," someone asked, "get a professional director, pay her and become a real musical organization?"

"No," another responded. "We've discovered something fine here. If we get a director from outside, he will put musical accomplishment first and will never see that we get as much from the fun of it as we do from the music." This was seconded by each. Then, however, it occurred to us that Mabel had had musical training and was a leader. Why not ask her to direct us, put ourselves in her care and, knowing well her understanding of our purpose, trust her to lead us toward the accomplishment of that purpose.

This we did and very gradually it came about that we were singing for forty-five minutes and afterward were free to talk and enjoy each other. Still we did not lose sight of our aims; first to find release from the cares of every day through association; and second to develop a harmonious group. Perhaps there is no first and second at the present time, but both are equal in our minds and to them has been added—to give service to others by the songs we sing or by assisting them to "go and do likewise."

One of the outgrowths of the idea as it originated was the bringing in the children of the mothers to play with us. We prepared a program together, the daughters and one son, illustrating our songs with dance and pantomime. Mothers and children came closer together. This drew in the fathers, not into the program, but in social times together; and from such association grew a broadening of our acquaintance in our community. Neighbors helped and were invited in. At our last picnic, thirty-two were present, and a joyous time it was—more like the old neighborhood picnics than we find often in these days of finding friend across town at club, or lodge, or church.

We dare to hope that we have had some share in the big move to make the *Community the basis of group activities*, for we believe it to be the most natural basis in the world, outside the Home itself.

Now the Spinet Chorus has lived three years, three years not always smooth and carefree, for we are just folks, and there have been roughnesses to sandpaper with frankness and friendship, in-

harmonies to be adjusted with great care lest the strings break in the process. Our director moved some distance away and for a year we have gone to her every Monday evening. Often we have attempted too much and nerves have become raw in the final production of a program. Sometimes, indeed, there has been talk of disbanding. Then is the time for a rest and invariably we come back ready for further effort. These many obstacles have appeared, for we had no precedent, no guide post to help us on our way, but never once was an obstacle so large that it could not be overcome by time and ordinary human patience or by a vacation.

Only recently has the miniature chorus reached the place where the attention of musical people has been attracted. We have far to go in that direction. Perhaps the quality of our voices is such that never will we reach a very high point, but we feel so strongly the value to ourselves that we are content to reach less than the highest peak if only we continue to be better mothers because of our Neighborhood Chorus. We have evolved from our experiment a theory, simple like our whole history,—that parents, most particularly mothers, of that vast army of the middle classes, who are taking their recreation now from artificial means, can find a surer joy, a more real recreation by providing for themselves definite methods of play—that music is the most restful thing we have in our cities and will do more to quiet taut nerves and take the tension from weary muscles than any other thing; and that we as mothers do better work, cook better meals, and are able to face our problems with greater equanimity when we sing together regularly and laugh together often.

Only one warning we would pass on to others—throw overboard all preconceived notions of how a musical organization should be formed and don't expect too much. All good things mean effort on the part of someone, at first, and trials to overcome but the purpose to work and play together will bring a very great and lasting joy to mothers.

There is a heart that sings and laughs aloud;
That ever smiles within the darkest cloud;
The heart that sees the sunshine through the mist,
And knows the flowers in the dark are just dew-kissed.

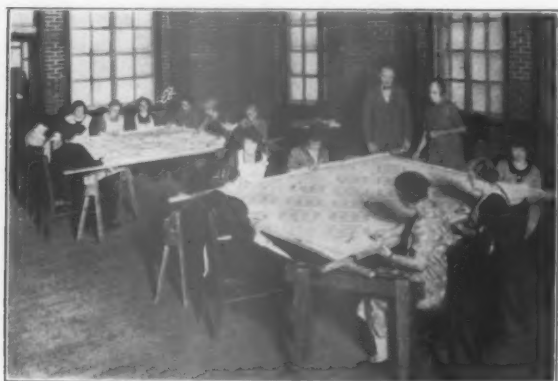
That heart is brave and strong in thick of fight,
And ready to forgive the wrong, if only he is right;
His vision clear, he runs the race though long,
And finds his load the lighter for the song.

Quilting in Chicago

By

ANNA C. ARTKAMPER,

President of Ogden Park Quilting Club, Chicago



QUILTING CLUB, CHICAGO, ILL.

Although "Bridge" and "500" are believed by many to be the pastimes for women, there are still some of us who are interested in the old but useful art of quilting.

In January, 1925, there appeared an article in the Southtown Community paper inviting women interested in quilting to register with the Director of Ogden Park, one of the parks maintained by the Chicago South Park Commission. That was the beginning of it all, and a very enthusiastic group of women organized a club which is the first of its kind in any Chicago community center.

The club, which has officers, meets one day each week from ten until four. Members bring their lunch, and coffee is served at noon. At this

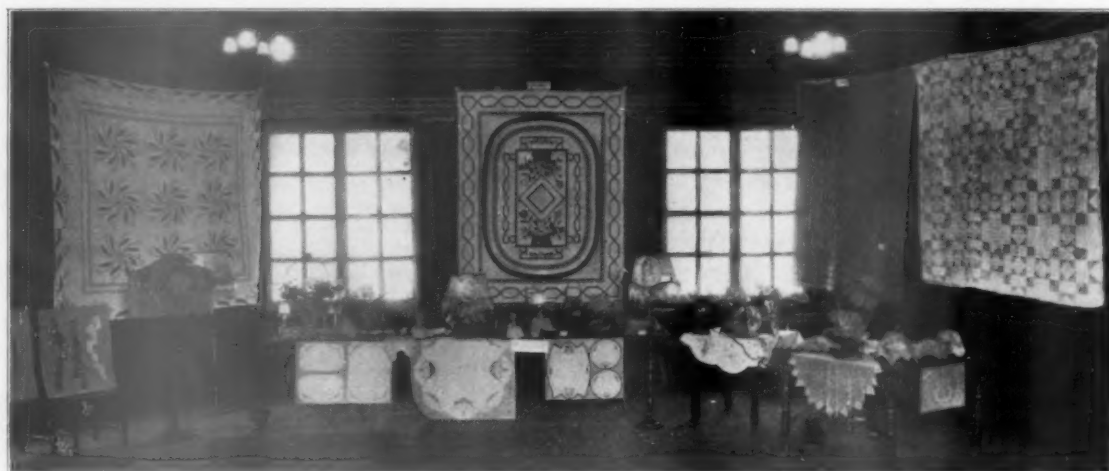
time the business meeting is held and members exchange ideas on the subject of quilts. Mothers with children under school age are allowed to bring them. They, too, are enthusiastic over club day, for the park and the toys and games which are supplied offer many joys.

We have the use of a well-ventilated sunshiny hall at the field house with French windows completely covering three sides, and a floor space which will accommodate four quilt frames at one time—an ideal place for club use. The plan we follow in making the quilts is this. Each member makes her own quilt top and in turn, according to attendance, the quilt is put on a frame and all help in quilting. At the end of the day, the end pieces of the frame are taken off, the quilt is rolled up, safely wrapped in oil cloth to protect it from dust, then placed in a rope sling and drawn up by pullies to the beam ceiling, where it is safely tucked out of harm's way until the next week.

Some of our members have made original patterns. Ideas are gathered from Marseilles bed spreads, rugs, wall paper, tapestry and other sources. We also use some of the patterns that are on the market with the usual squares, diamonds, scrolls and other stock designs, but after the additions and changes the finished quilt is usually quite original. It is surprising how many things about one's own home are suggestive for patterns.

While quilting is our hobby, husbands and children are not forgotten! Occasionally, we have dancing parties and buffet luncheons, with picnics in the summer for the children.

The ages of our members range from twenty-



OGDEN PARK QUILTING CLUB EXHIBIT, CHICAGO, ILL.



SO. PARKS HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT, CHICAGO, ILL.

five to seventy years. Two-thirds of us have bobbed hair, so we do not consider ourselves old-fashioned even though we are engaged in reviving the old art. On this one day of the week each member forgets household cares. While quilting, we sing songs, old and new, and discuss topics of the day.

The club is immensely popular. We have had many requests for membership, but we have found it necessary to limit the number to forty, believing it is advisable to have small groups and to increase the number of them.

Progressive women of the present day are realizing more than ever the importance of using their spare time in producing useful and beautiful things for the home. A day each week, spent in the company of women with mutual interests, gives a home-loving woman enjoyment and is profitable as well.

Right Reading for Children*

With Mrs. Howard R. Ives as chairman, the meeting was addressed by Annie Carroll Moore, of the New York Public Library.

Miss Moore said she began her professional experience 30 years ago when Charles Pratt, founding Pratt Institute, built, for a library for children, a new building upon what had been a vacant lot. The children were very unruly and came in through the windows as well as the doors and often threw in squashes, stones, or other mementoes. Miss Moore said that many years ago she heard her father tell of experiences in Maine, where the postmaster used to expel the boys from

the Post Office for bad behavior. Such behavior for the purpose of being expelled became one of the main leisure time activities of the village. Remembering this experience with the postmaster and having a janitor who lent himself to baiting by the children, Miss Moore realized she must have something sufficiently interesting to hold the children in the library. She did not attempt to circulate books more than once a week, but used the library as a reading room. Picture books were useful here, especially the Palmer Cox Brownie books, books of horses, animal books. These were used to capture the interest and invite a desire to read. At that time Bronx Park had just been laid out on paper. Meeting Dr. Hornaday at the house of a friend, Miss Moore told him of her search for animal pictures and of a plan to have an exhibit of animal pictures by families showing such relations as that between wolves and dogs. Dr. Hornaday was interested and gave great help in securing these pictures and invited Miss Moore to bring her entire group to the park when it was opened.

Miss Moore feels that many animal books are disappointing because of the small size of the pictures or because the drawing is not sharp and definite enough. The Brownie books are enormous aid to reading and older boys will follow a single figure, begin to concentrate and become interested in the reading.

Many children who never felt any interest in the school readers learn to read from such books. Some children need a stronger dramatic appeal than even the modern school readers supply. This they get from picture books. It used to be thought that reading is passive. People talked of keeping children quiet with a book, but now the work is based upon the reading and is, as one boy said, al-

(Concluded on page 98)

*Report of section meeting at Recreation Congress, Atlantic City, N. J., October, 1926.

A Pageant of Robin Hood

By

E. A. PRITCHARD AND L. M. DETURK

Reading, Pennsylvania

Reading, Pennsylvania, has frequently been called "The story-tellingest town in the country." It has a Storytellers' League of very large and active membership; its natives revel in the telling of local pieces of legendry; storytelling and its accompanying dramatics are a part of the school curriculum; the playgrounds annually conduct a storytelling contest among the children; and it was one of the first cities in the country to employ itinerating storytellers to go about the streets in costume, visiting sections of the city not having the advantages of playgrounds, and telling stories to the children in school yards and on street corners.

It is possible that the abundant development of this linguistic activity in the community had a great deal to do with the production of the "Pageant of Robin Hood" by one thousand children at the Reading Fair on September fourteenth. It was the vision of a far-sighted leader in the community who saw the possibilities of carrying the motivation in this activity, and the advantage of the natural interest of boys and girls in an old and beloved legendary hero, to the point of a mammoth production. After several seasons of dramatizing the standard stories of childhood in which they had become so much interested as well as accomplished, there was carefully woven into the community a distinctive project that finally resulted in engrossing the active interest of many adults as well as the hundreds of children who actually participated in the final production.

How It Started

In the early spring, stories of the hero of Sherwood reached the ears of many boys and girls in the schools. The public library began to feel the unusual demands for literature dealing with the old English period of Robin Hood's time. The Storytellers' League spread tales of his adventures in the greenwood and an archery club in one of the junior high schools dramatized some scenes from Robin Hood's life. The Junior Storytellers' League specialized on these legends. Motivation of the corps of playground directors

was readily accomplished during their two weeks' period of training previous to the summer work with the children. When the playgrounds opened during the last week in June, keen interest was already noticeable. It was no difficult matter to "sell" the idea to the Reading Fair Association that the children's day pageant at the great Reading Fair should follow this theme, and they agreed to assist the Recreation Department in the furthering of the project.

Robin Hood Legends Woven Into All Activities

The children's activities of the entire season were colored by interest in medieval English customs. The regular playground activities included archery contests, bouts with the quarterstaff, wrestling, buffeting, and jousting. Of course, the storytelling among the children featured the men of the greenwood and the public library found it necessary to place all books on that subject on a special reference shelf in order to keep any of them in the building. The costume parades which are an annual feature of the opening week of the playgrounds contained a number of Robin Hoods, in several cases accompanied by a retinue of followers in Lincoln green. The making of bows and arrows, quivers, fancy quarterstaves and special costumes replaced some of the more stereotyped kinds of playground handcraft among the children. At the midsummer handcraft exhibit a number of exceptionally well-made examples of these were to be seen.

About the time the pageant director came on the scene at the beginning of August the pageant was beginning to crystallize, although very little or nothing had been said to the children about a formal production. No manuscript was followed; in fact no one had an idea yet what the performance might resemble. A committee of playground directors and supervisors met and discussed possibilities. Out of these discussions and ideas, evolved through the various sub-committees and individuals in the community, the final plan of the spectacle was designed.



THE BALLROOM DANCE FINALE OF THE ROBIN HOOD PAGEANT

The Final Production.

Finally, production was made before the large grandstand and bleachers along the home stretch of the race track at the fairgrounds. The stage itself was the large grassy plot across the track with a paddock on one side and a large concrete vaudeville platform on the other. The background was a ten-foot painted wall. A screen of natural trees was placed in front of this wall as well as on the sides of the stage. During different episodes this wall and the trees took turns at being at one time a scene in the greenwood, at another Nottingham fair and later a chapel near the forest. The wall served very well to cut off the distracting view of crowds and buildings at that end of the grounds, as well as, together with the concrete platform, acting as a screen for the performers back-stage. The designing and painting of the scenery for the background was taken care of by local artists.

An interesting arrangement was devised and used in connection with this production, probably for the first time. The "lines" of the "principals" were successfully carried to every ear in the audience, despite the great distances intervening,

without shouting, and with perfect audition. This was done by training a special cast of "voices" which was screened from the audience—but placed to get a full view of the stage—and providing each one with a microphone that was connected to large amplifier horns distributed in front of the spectators' stands. With careful practice and close watching these voices were so synchronized with those of the acting cast as to create a splendid illusion and to add immensely to the dramatic effects.

After the last episode all the characters re-enter the stage, the girls forming several circles in the foreground where they dance a "balloon dance" expressing their reluctance to return to the "Land of Reality." This ends with the releasing of the gas-filled balloons into the air, the girls disappearing as the balloons drift into the blue. The boys in the meantime have assembled for an effective frieze in the background and are reluctantly and gradually releasing their balloons. While the balloons are disappearing across the landscape the boys step forward and give the final chorus, "Farewell to Sherwood." They then form and move off with a long procession down the long track to disappear in the west.

The city playgrounds were divided into units, each of which was to produce its episode independently of the others. No lines were given for these parts. Each unit selected its legend to be dramatized, which was to be adjusted to the number and ages of the children possible for use from that unit. The matter of costumes was handled with the assistance of the mothers in each community. A harmonizing color scheme was worked out and sketched by one of the playground directors and each unit assigned its predominating colors with its secondary colors proportioned. Patterns and sketches of costumes were the work of the costume committee, which did efficient work.

The securing of the musical setting for the pageant appeared to be a very difficult problem until the assistance of several interested adults of the community was enlisted. Through them were obtained many suggestions, some original work and special music for the dances. All the episodes were given with the accompanying music, most of which was from the opera. Splendid cooperation on the part of a local band leader made it possible to get unusual results in this particular phase of the performance.

Municipal Golf — Its Influence on Park Recreation Affairs*

By

H. S. WAGNER

*Director, Metropolitan Park Board of Summit
County, Akron, Ohio*

In this paper the effort will be made to focus attention on the one most important element of benefit that municipal golf injects into park affairs. The purpose will be to help those officials who have a park system in making, who are faced with the problems of molding public sentiment to support movements for sufficient funds, first to maintain what they have, and second to acquire lands for future expansion and raise park standards of all kinds.

Golf Has Come to Stay

There is but little doubt that golf has come to stay as the one form of national sport in which the enthusiast is a participator rather than a spectator. Every year thousands are converted to the game, largely through the medium of the public or municipal golf course and the privately owned courses which charge a moderate fee and which are open to the public. This increase bears a continually mounting proportion to the total number of new golfers, which reaches close to a million a year, according to golf authorities. These public courses provide facilities for a mass of people who could not or would not otherwise take up the game, if they were faced with the necessarily larger investment in membership fees and dues that rule in the administration of nearly all private clubs. Golf has come to this high place in the world of sport somewhat through the medium of the municipal course because of this fact of moderate cost.

It is safe to say that golf, as a whole, is rather poorly conducted; in the hands of green committees which serve for short periods only, private courses are put to hundreds of thousands of dollars of needless expenditures in order to satisfy the whims of a few, and it is to be said in justice to municipal golf courses, that their

administration more closely approaches the renowned thrift of the originators of the game. This principle is bound to be strengthened as days go on, since golf calls for participation, and its expansion depends upon mass production of a sort. While we now as a nation refuse to recognize anything like a saturation point, we recognize the fact every day that moderate initial expense and low upkeep bring up the sales volume. Municipal golf at a moderate fee is bound to attract players in faster proportion than the private courses because of this fact, all other elements being somewhat equal.

With the changes of the years, we are not likely to see the duplication of fine scenic parks inside of our cities such as Franklin Park in Boston which meets the demands of people in slow moving vehicles and on foot, and we must recognize that golf has brought an opportunity to the park official to establish facilities for play and at the same time a chance to preserve or even to build fine, broad landscapes in park areas close to or inside the city. Golf is the one form of recreation appealing to great numbers of people of all ages which permits retention of fine park scenery.

Values of Golf

In the matter of participation, it seems quite vital to a people that is so closely confined to daily endeavors, and increasingly using the automobile in their leisure hours, that, instead of merely watching others play, we should, to preserve and improve our physical with our spiritual side, play as diligently as we labor. The imagination does not promptly conjure up a game to replace golf, just now at least.

A recent newspaper editorial states: "The tendency of the time is to preserve health and to keep the muscles alive and healthy by personal exercise. The rocking chair athlete and the one who exercises by proxy is passing. The latest estimate

*Extracts from paper read at the 27th Annual Convention of the American Institute of Park Executives and American Park Society at Houston, Texas, on October 27, 1926.

shows 4,500 golf clubs and about 4,000,000 players."

A great advantage of golf is that it makes the player walk and gives him an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors as does no other sport. Floyd W. Parsons said recently in the *Saturday Evening Post*, "Golf is doing more than all else to prevent walking from becoming a lost art and is fascinating because it never can be conquered."

Golf brings out true sportsmanship! Who will say that golf has room for the man or woman who cannot be placed on his own responsibility? Is it not true that the game does develop the better side of those who play? I am mindful of an accusation that the game makes liars out of all who play and yet I am quite certain that while that may be true for a few, it is but the exception that proves the rule—that a man will be fair when "placed upon his own."

If many games are undesirable on account of competition and some of the ills that attend it, it may be said that golf has few of these evils. After all, the game is one in which the keenest competitor is one's self. As a suppressor of ego, it is without a peer, with all respect to the low scores turned in by our "adversaries." Remember Talleyrand said "men were given speech that others might not know that of which they thought." A man may boast of eagles and birdies but in his heart he yearns to do 18 in par.

Golf Not Injurious to Park Scenery

As to the effect of golf courses on park scenery, it may be said there are golf courses, especially public links, which do not add to the beauty of the scenery, but this is equally true of parks and playgrounds. And it is clear that the golf course offers a better opportunity of maintaining and even adding to the attractiveness of the park than any other form of active recreation.

The one sport—tennis—that is a real competitor in the matter of participation offers but little in the matter of adding to the appearance of the park where tennis courts are located. There is exercise aplenty, but little of the benefit that comes to the golfer through the contact with beautiful scenery. Tennis will continue to grow but it is quite apparent that golf is leading that field of sport today.

We who administer parks must apparently provide facilities which serve two purposes in one, and if we are to have more fine scenery in our city parks, we must at least build golf courses which will serve both these ends.



AKRON MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE, OHIO

It may not be generally known that golf courses were originally established on common land over which each inhabitant of the district had some right. This was, however, the state of affairs in Scotland, where the game originated, and today Scottish golf courses are community rather than private undertakings so that the idea of municipal golf courses is not new; it is merely returning to its own.

On the Financial Side

In these days of intense discussion of international debts, federal, state and city, we are constantly reminded that the future of our parks depends largely on the ability of the men who administer them, not purely on the physical side alone, but also on the financial. Even the cities which are especially blessed with the spirit that has made broad park systems possible are finding that the many other forms of public service continue to make more serious inroads upon the funds that arise out of general taxation and special assessment. It seems reasonable to suggest, however, that among other elements municipal golf brings favorable support to this very idea of special assessment, which is nothing, if not vital, to the extension and maintenance of future park programs.

In support of this statement, it can be said it is generally accepted at this time that it is proper to make some special charge to all users of facilities provided by municipal golf courses. And yet, looking back over the years, we find that this idea

is fully in controversy with the methods of the past. When, in order to control the use of baseball fields in the city of Boston, it became necessary to secure permits for that use in advance, but without charge, no little disturbance was caused among those who sought to use publicly owned and maintained fields. Many, even a majority, claimed that the fields were public and that no barriers should be erected to prevent their use at any time by anybody. Of course, this permit system was a matter of control as was the administration of public tennis courts. Without any special investigation into these matters, it seems that the precedent for making a charge for the use of facilities provided by a park body was established when public wading and swimming pools were built and operated on a basis of a small charge. These facilities were constructed to meet a rapidly increasing demand upon the part of many whose means or time was so limited as to prevent this healthful form of recreation except as provided by the municipality at close range and at a nominal fee.

Undoubtedly, the idea of making a charge for the use of the municipal golf course, which, while not universal, does closely approach that, came largely out of the necessity to control its use. The game is one that requires much careful supervision of the course itself and of the use of it, and perhaps the principle of making the users pay the way was only a by-product. Nevertheless, it exists and provides, I venture to state, the most wholesome influence in park affairs that has been encountered up to the present time. It may be questioned whether or not the player who pays recognizes such a principle. It should be sufficient to us to have such a situation within our control; and it should be used upon every occasion because of the fact that the golfer on the municipal course is a critical being who desires just the same facilities and perfection of fairway and green as he knows exists on the best course in his town. Consequently, rarely does he object to the higher fee that is most often necessary constantly to improve his course. In short, the golfer, paying his way, impatient for improved conditions, may serve as the pacemaker in many park affairs.

Again, in the matter of acquisition of park lands, is it not clear that the necessity for municipal golf has in many places been the driving force behind the establishment of something like 200 publicly owned courses in 150 cities?

Further, has the park official not welcomed the idea of municipal golf because he has recognized

that the establishment of a course brings widespread support to park programs and a chance for this very principle of permitting the user to pay his own way to work to the benefit of all park affairs?

All of us are only too familiar with the fact that in a flourishing country like our own, it is becoming more and more difficult to acquire areas that are even possible of development into parks of 100 acres or more, inside of, or even close to city limits. It seems reasonably safe to say that the coming of municipal golf has decisively improved that situation, since many courses have been established in recent years involving acreages that undoubtedly would have been otherwise developed had it not been for the impetuous efforts of the golfers who desired municipal courses.

We have not yet come within reaching distance of a place where anything like sufficient acreage is controlled by park boards. It is safe to say that nearly all programs of acquiring land for park purposes will prove beneficial in an endless number of ways. Municipal golf provides one of the most powerful driving forces for the acquisition of lands of favorable size.

Akron's Experience

If I may be pardoned, I want to give you a few facts about my own city of Akron which has just passed its one hundredth birthday. Akron's first one hundred years saw a more or less monotonous rise and fall in the matter of parks. When the original town plat was laid out a favorable acreage was set aside as "common ground." The donors of that land continue to remain interested in that side of the city's affairs and even today the name "Perkins" is synonymous with parks since members of that family were largely responsible for the majority of acreage acquired by the city in the 100 years of its growth. All of these areas are comparatively small.

Three years ago the municipal golf idea became implanted in the minds of a few and culminated with the gift of 180 acres of land to the city for an "18-hole municipal golf course." This single gift from J. Edward Good increased the original acreage about one-third or from 307 to 487 acres. The golfer and the man who wants to play golf are valuable forces which the administrators of park affairs cannot refuse to recognize if our parks are to improve and be extended.

To substantiate the idea of the influence of municipal golf in park acquisitions, the following

is taken from a letter received recently from the United States Golf Association:

"There are now 3,500 private courses in this country and 484 in Canada.

"Possibly the most ambitious undertaking in the line of municipal golf course construction is that of Savannah, Georgia. Under date of September 2nd, 1925, the Department of Publicity of the Board of Trade makes the following statement:

"We have under construction our first municipal golf course and expect that it will be ready for use by spring, 1926. It is an 18-hole course, constructed by Donald Ross of Hendersonville. Our city will construct three more of these 18-hole courses in one park of 675 acres.

"This year the city of Buffalo opened as a municipal course the former home of the Country Club for which the city paid \$800,000. Erie, Penna., purchased the Erie Golf Club property, 110 acres, to relieve the Essex County, N. J., Park Commission which has charge of the golf course in Newark, and will take over next year the course of the Forest Hill Field Club."

Municipal golf brings this favorable influence partly because of the fact that it represents one of the first efforts on the part of public authorities to provide recreational facilities for the adult. It has always been my particular pet theory that park authorities should provide for the passive recreation of people of all ages, for the opportunity to enjoy fine scenery, for the recreation of its growing children and for the possibility of physical exercise of the adult in that order, if any order is possible. At least it seems reasonable to provide for boys and girls under sixteen out of funds at large after the playground sites are evenly distributed over the city.

The leisure time of the growing youth can most properly be kept under observation in the playground. As these children grow older and more and more are placed on their own responsibility, they can better afford to pay for the recreation that they may choose for themselves. Municipal golf at a reasonable fee will continue to attract more and more players and thus provide for a most wholesome use of the leisure hours of our people. Recognition of the idea of charging a fee to the adult in all forms of publicly provided recreation will serve to permit the use of increased funds to establish better facilities for the youth from whom we cannot and should not expect payment.

The Question of Fees

Something may well be said on this matter of fees. Certainly they should be scaled up to a point to meet maintenance charges where they do not already equal them, and undoubtedly they ought to take care of a portion at least of the carrying charges arising out of acquisition of land and construction.

It may seem contradictory to the last statement to suggest that municipal golf must be economically operated. There is widespread acceptance of the fact that private golf courses are operated on a rather reckless and expensive basis, and on that account alone park officials, with the interest of their trusts and of the game itself in mind, should be all the more careful of expenditures on public courses. Further, just as it is also known generally that the professional of the private club, who is granted all concessions, is largely the beneficiary of the club on the financial side, no public park official should sanction the handing over of the concessions connected with the public course before very carefully investigating into the facts in other cities.

Again, it is suggested that more and more attention be paid to the item of turf. Your fairways and greens must be more regularly fed than are those on a majority of American courses today if they are to be maintained at a reasonable cost. Turf continues to be the essential element of a golf course.

At the present rate of increase, something like ten or fifteen million players will take up the



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game in the next fifteen years, necessitating 20,000 new clubs and the purchase of 3,000,000 acres or more of land. Will your city have its share of this acreage in municipal courses?

Floyd Parsons has said that if the game is to be maintained on a high level, it must be organized to pay its way and that it is "perfectly obvious that if millions are going to play golf there will have to be more rigorous supervision exercised on congested courses."

Golf as a fast growing institution is not without its faults and constructive criticism will build it more firmly. It behooves the park official to lend every bit of support in his power to economy in the building and maintenance of his courses and an untiring effort to make them sustaining through fees.

I believe that municipal golf on a fee basis provides one of the most valuable working tools to the park official. The idea of making a charge is fundamentally and practically correct and is in accordance with the trend in municipal affairs of all kinds; the charges for power and water consumed by the individual user on a meter basis being the most commonly accepted example.

Park men should lose no opportunity to use that principle. It must be employed if we are to continue to improve our standards and to prove to those to whom we must turn every day for support that our work is truly "to make more abundant facilities for a more expressive life for all."

Right Reading

(Continued from page 91)

most the nicest sport. The child must master the mechanics so as not to think of that part of reading. It is like knowing the rules of the game before real interest can be felt in play. The ideal is to see children read aloud with *pleasure*. So many teachers are insensitive to the effect of the reading upon the children. To have value, reading must have emotional appeal. There is no lovelier sight than a boy who has just finished what he calls a "corker."

People who think of librarians as mere catalogers and wielders of indexes would be surprised to know the delight that comes from sharing in the pleasure of children reading.

One of the books especially recommended by Miss Moore is *Daniel Boone* by Stewart Edward White.

Carl Sandburg's *Prairie Years* is a delightful book for the whole family to read. It is expensive, but if widely read a demand might be created for less expensive editions. Recreation workers should remember that the publishers are open to such suggestions.

Little Machinery is a book that is sure to appeal to little boys and engineers say it is all right from a technical standpoint.

David Goes A-Voyaging and *David Goes to Greenland*, published by Putnam.

Arcturus Adventure, by William Beebe. The past year has been fruitful in books on American life and also on books to help us understand our children. Three of these latter are published by Dutton. *Education and Good Life*, by Bertrand Russell. *The Revolt of Modern Youth*, by Judge Lindsey. Miss Moore's latest book, *Cross Roads to Childhood* (Doyle) contains two annotated lists one for the middle aged children from 11-13 and in their 'teens.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Lee suggested that it is important to remember that reading is the main recreation of many people. Mr. Lee emphasized Miss Moore's point about the marvellous romantic history of America, recommending particularly *Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant* (Century Co.), and giving anecdotes from it. Asked for Indian stories, Miss Moore suggested Cooper's *Leather Stocking Series*, *Flamingo Feather* by Kirk Munroe; *Indian History*, Stouter, books of Dr. Charles Eastman and a new edition of the *Oregon Trail*, by Parkman, with pictures, published by Little Brown and Company. Miss Moore emphasizes the importance of giving good things before the age of ten. After that, the reader can stand rummaging about.

Miss Moore read extracts from a newspaper article showing the marvelous range of interest in reading of Gene Tunney, the prize fighter and thought this might be suggestive in interesting boys in reading.

Pinochio in a new edition with Italian pictures was suggested as valuable to "unhitch the mind at night." The Book of Knowledge has value as an encyclopedia, like bound volumes of magazines, and is useful if plenty of other reading matter is provided.

Nature's Invitation

DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED BY WILLIAM G. VINAL

A List of Fifty Plants for Bird Gardens

By

ALAN F. ARNOLD,

Dept. Landscape Engineering, N. Y. State College
of Forestry

*Supplementing an Article in the February
Playground*

The following notes will serve to make it clear what sorts of plants are included in this list and in what ways the list might be extended.

1. We have here only woody plants—no herbaceous plants such as garden flowers, wild flowers or annual vines, though many of these would be useful in a bird garden.

2. The only trees included are small ones except, perhaps, the Redcedar and Siberian Crab and they fit quite definitely into the list. Many larger trees are excellent for attracting birds—the Mulberries, Cherries and Tupelo, for instance—but they were omitted as being less likely to be used in garden planting.

3. The list was made with the northeast section of the country in mind and would have to be revised for any other.

4. Only plants obtainable from nurseries are included. Additional plants that are fine for birds might be used by transplanting them from the wild.

5. All plants listed include those with definite ornamental value, having uses besides the special one of this list—plants, that is, more or less well known in landscape planting.

The list is by no means complete and there are many plants omitted that are very attractive to birds but which would not come within our list of plants suitable for garden planting and obtainable from nurseries. Many wild species of Blackberry, Blueberry and Grape, for example, are especial favorites with the birds but would hardly be used in garden planting—though they might

find a place in naturalizing or in work on a big scale, such as in bird sanctuaries. Moreover, in order to get a variety of plants into the list, a point has been made of not including too many of one genus. Otherwise, additional species of Dogwood, Sumac and others might have been listed as being better than some that do appear. Fruit trees of the commercial varieties might sometimes be used as they are often of some ornamental value.

In the great majority of cases the birds are attracted to these plants by the fruit which is eaten by them. In some instances there are other attractions such as finding food in insects common to the plants, finding shelter, or nesting sites. The question of just what birds may be expected to come to certain plants is one that cannot be answered very definitely though observations show certain birds to have preferences for certain plants. Some birds, as Robins, Bluebirds, Kingbirds and Cedar Waxwings, would be drawn by almost any of the plants on this list.

A few of the plants, as the Black Huckleberry, Canada Plum and Partridge Berry, would be found only in a few of the largest nurseries or those specializing in native plants, such as the Chas. G. Curtis Co., Callicoon, N. Y.; Edward Gillett, Southwick, Mass.; Hicks Nurseries, Westbury, Long Island; F. W. Kelsey, 50 Church St., New York City, and Harlan P. Kelsey, Salem, Mass. Most of the plants would be found in the majority of good nurseries.

The plant names in italics are the common and Latin names which are given preference in horticultural use; with some plants there are, in small type, synonyms that are frequently met with.

The best plants, from the point of view of the birds, are starred.

Downy Shadblow. Shadbush. *Amelanchier Canadensis.* Small, native tree, seldom over 30 ft. high. Pleasing habit and one of best of small trees for early spring bloom. Sweet, juicy fruit, eaten by a great variety of birds such as Bluebird, Scarlet Tanager, Baltimore Oriole and Woodpeckers.

**Virginia Creeper.* Woodbine. *Ampelopsis Quinquefolia.* *Parthenocissus quinquefolia.* A vigorous, high climbing vine. Climbs by ten-

drills and there is a variety that clings to wall surfaces. Foliage handsome in the autumn, though it falls early. Good for nesting sites as well as winter food, the fruit lasting well.

Japanese Creeper. Boston Ivy. *Ampelopsis Tricuspidata*. *Ampelopsis veitchii*. A big vine, making a dense mass of shiny foliage. Clings closely to walls and thrives under city conditions. Handsome in autumn. Furnishes nesting sites as well as winter food.

Bearberry. *Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi*. A low plant forming a carpet of evergreen foliage and generally used as a ground cover. Will not grow under all conditions and not carried by many nurseries. The berries of wild plants are eaten by Grouse and Quail; Robins and Bluebirds might also feed on it.

Red Chokeberry. *Aronia Arbutifolia*. *Pyrus arbutifolia*. A medium sized, native shrub. Not a shapely individual but with good flowers and red fruits. Fine autumn color to foliage. Bluebirds and Cedar Waxwings feed on this and the following.

Black Chokeberry. *Aronia Melanocarpa*. *Pyrus nigra*. Lower and more spreading than the preceding and with, perhaps, better flowers. A very fine foliage plant. Shiny, black fruit which ripens in August and does not last very long.

**Spicebush.* *Benzoin Aestivale*. *Lindera benzoin*. A tall, native shrub. Likes a moist soil. Rather nice foliage and yellow flowers at about the same time as those of Forsythia. Red, spicy fruits. Popular with a variety of birds.

Japanese Barberry. *Berberis Thunbergii*. Very common. One of the best all round shrubs there is and useful in many ways. The fruit, which lasts through the whole winter, is eaten by birds from necessity rather than choice. Furnishes good nesting sites.

European Barberry. *Berberis Vulgaris*. This is the taller Barberry that has been popular for a great many years. In many ways not so desirable as the preceding but has more and showier fruit. Furnishes winter food for Flickers, Kingbirds, Robins, Cedar Waxwings, etc.

Oriental Bittersweet. *Celastrus Orbiculatus*. *Celastrus articulatus*. An Asiatic counterpart of our native Bittersweet and a better plant. Good for covering trellises, trees, walls and rocks. Very showy yellow and crimson fruits. Winter food for Bluebirds, Robins and Downy Woodpeckers.

**Pagoda Dogwood.* Alternate Leaved Dogwood. *Cornus Alternifolia*. A native shrub or

small tree of very distinctive habit and rather nice foliage, flowers and fruit. Easily grown and one of most desirable plants from point of view of birds.

**Flowering Dogwood.* *Cornus Florida*. One of most handsome of small flowering trees. Beautiful in bloom in spring and with rich color in autumn. Not at its best very far north. A favorite with many birds, such as Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Brown Thrasher, Red-Eyed Vireo and Woodpeckers.

**Gray Dogwood.* *Cornus Paniculata*. *Cornus racemosa*. A dense shrub of medium height with rather good flowers and white fruits, which, however, do not last very long. Excellent, like the two preceding Dogwoods, for birds.

Washington Hawthorn. *Crataegus Cordata*. Of the many Hawthorns, the best, if a shapely specimen not taking up too much room is wanted. Also one of the best for its fruit, which is abundant and lasts through the winter.

Cockspur Thorn. *Crataegus Crusgalli*. Less of a distinct tree than the preceding. One of the best Hawthorns for foliage and the commonest American species in cultivation. Robins and Crows especially are associated with Hawthorns. The trees make good nesting sites.

Russian-Olive. *Oleaster*. *Elaeagnus Angustifolia*. A very big shrub whose twigs and leaves are silvery gray, making it useful for special foliage effects. Produces lots of fruit available for winter bird food.

Cherry Elaeagnus. Japanese Oleaster. *Elaeagnus Longipes*. *Elaeagnus multiflora*. For most purposes a better shrub than the preceding. Medium sized and attractive when in bloom in early spring. Abundant, edible, scarlet fruits. Catbirds, Robins and Cedar Waxwings are known to feed on them.

European Burningbush. *Euonymus Europaeus*. A tall shrub with first rate foliage and extremely decorative fruit. Good for various birds, such as Bluebird, Fox Sparrow, Myrtle Warbler.

**Black Huckleberry.* *Gaylussacia Baccata*. *Gaylussacia resinosa*. A low shrub found wild in a variety of situations and exhibiting many variations in leaves and fruit. The typical fruit is the black huckleberry commonly eaten. Good on sandy soils. Not common in nurseries. Excellent source of food for birds.

**Common Winterberry.* Black Alder. *Ilex Verticillata*. A hardy, native shrub with nice foliage and bright red fruits which are sold for

Christmas decoration. Likes moisture. A slow grower. Attracts many birds such as Bluebird, Cardinal and Woodpeckers.

**Common Juniper. Juniperus Communis.* An evergreen, varying from a low shrub to a small tree. There are some varieties of it that are commoner than the parent plant. Pleasing colors to the foliage. Furnishes nesting sites as well as winter food. The Purple Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Phoebe and Wood Thrush have been noted in connection with it.

**Redcedar. Juniperus Virginiana.* Evergreen tree, never very tall in the North. One of most valuable ornamental evergreens. All Junipers do well on dry soils. This is one of the best plants for birds we have, attracting a great variety of them. This is the Cedar of the Cedar Waxwing.

Mountain-Laurel. Kalmia Latifolia. Perhaps the best evergreen shrub for the northeastern U. S., though it will not grow in all soils. Very beautiful in bloom. Has no food for birds but affords the sort of shelter that many of them like. The Black-throated Blue Warbler has been associated with it.

European Privet. Ligustrum Vulgare. A tall shrub with handsome foliage. Not the Privet commonly seen as a hedge plant. Excellent for a background, a screen and planting about buildings. Thrives in the city. May furnish winter food though birds do not favor it.

**Morrow Honeysuckle. Lonicera Morrowi.* A handsome shrub of distinct form that can be planted by itself or in masses. Has nice flowers and is especially attractive for its red fruit. Honeysuckles are very easily grown.

Tatarian Honeysuckle. Lonicera Tatarica. A common shrub, taller than the preceding. There are forms with pink and white flowers and ones with red and yellow fruit. Has an abundance of flowers and fruit, the latter in early summer. Catbirds and Brown Thrashers feed on Honeysuckles.

**Siberian Crab. Malus Baccata. Pyrus baccata.* A tree not tall but stout and spreading. Beautiful in bloom—a profusion of white, fragrant flowers. Fruit yellow or red. Many Crabapples cultivated for their fruit are derived from this and would also be excellent for birds.

**Japanese Flowering Crab. Malus Floribunda. Pyrus pulcherrima.* One of most beautiful flowering trees there is. Smaller than the preceding and bloom is a mixture of rose and

white. Small fruits of yellow or red. These two Crabs are very hardy. Flickers, Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Grosbeaks are associated with them.

Partridgeberry. Mitchella Repens. A creeping plant of the same character as the Bearberry. May be used as a ground cover. Less common than the Bearberry and not carried by many nurseries. The red berries are available as winter food.

**Northern Bayberry. Myrica Carolinensis.* Chiefly a seacoast plant and thrives in sandy soil. Very handsome foliage. Furnishes the bayberries for candles. Small to medium sized plant. May be found listed as *Myrica cerifera*. The fruit lasts through the winter and is eaten by nearly all birds.

**Beach Plum. Prunus Maritima.* Like the Bayberry, a seashore plant. Not regular or graceful in habit, but beautiful in bloom in early spring. In New England the fruit is a common preserving plum, ripe in late summer or early fall. Might help to distract birds from orchard fruits.

**Canada Plum. Prunus Nigra.* A small tree of irregular form. Valuable for its hardiness and its flowers and fruit. Very showy when in flower. Bees seem as fond of its flowers as birds are of its fruit.

Common Buckthorn. Rhamnus Cathartica. A shrub or small tree from Europe but long cultivated here. Very hardy and sturdy with good foliage. Many birds, as the Blue Jay, Junco, Kingbird and Rose-breasted Grosbeak, take to it for shelter and the fruit.

**Fragrant Sumac. Rhus Canadensis.* Rhus aromatica. A low, rather straggly shrub, with good, clean foliage which is very showy in autumn. Should not be planted by itself or in conspicuous places. Fruit lasts well and affords winter food to Chickadees, Blue Jays, Woodpeckers, and others.

**Staghorn Sumac. Rhus Typhina.* Rhus hirta. A big shrub or small tree that grows very quickly and on very dry soils, but is short lived. Should be kept in the background. Fall color brilliant. The fruit lasts through winter and attracts many birds. Much the same could be said of the Smooth Sumac.

**Mountain Currant. Ribes Alpinum.* A dense shrub from Europe, about six feet high with nice foliage and decorative scarlet fruit. Probably the best of the Currants for ornamental plant-

ing, though not common. The Brown Thrasher has been seen feeding on this plant.

Golden Currant. Missouri Currant. *Ribes Odorum*. The commonest currant in ornamental planting. Pretty, yellow flowers in spring and black fruit. Sometimes listed by nurseries as *Ribes aureum*. The Crandall Currant is derived from this.

Virginia Rose. Glossy Rose. *Rosa Lucida*. *Rosa virginiana*. A native rose, making a very good all round shrub. Has the pink flowers and red fruits of most American roses. Fruit lasts till spring and serves as food for Chickadees, Juncoes, Bluebirds and Kingbirds.

**Swamp Rose.* *Rosa Palustris*. *Rosa carolina*. A native rose, very common in wet spots though can be cultivated in most any good soil. Three to six feet high. Fruit stays on throughout winter and is eaten by the birds listed under Virginia Rose.

**American Elder.* Common Elder. *Sambucus Canadensis*. A big shrub, somewhat rough and coarse but making a fine show in bloom. It is this that furnishes flowers and fruit for wine and pies. A favorite with all sorts of birds from Chickadees to Ruffed Grouse.

**Scarlet Elder.* *Sambucus Pubens*. Has a general resemblance to the preceding but blooms much earlier and has scarlet, rather than blackish, fruit. Fruit not eaten by man—sometimes even looked on as poisonous—but it appears to be at the very top of the list for bird food.

European Mountain-Ash. Rowan Tree. *Sorbus Aucuparia*. *Pyrus aucuparia*. A stout, handsome tree with good foliage and flowers and very decorative fruit. Fruit sometimes considered poisonous to man though used in Scotland for jelly. Perhaps less valuable to birds than the American Mountain-Ash, though this is seldom cultivated.

**Common Snowberry.* *Symphoricarpos Racemosus*. A very common low shrub, conspicuous in fall for its white fruits. Very hardy and will thrive in very shady spots. Not a fine plant but quite useful. Furnishes nesting sites and winter food.

Coralberry. Indian Currant. *Symphoricarpos Vulgaris*. Another valuable small shrub. More shapely than the preceding but makes less show of fruit—in this case a dull red. Seems to be not much of a favorite with the birds.

Canada Yew. Ground Hemlock. *Taxus Canadensis*. A shrubby evergreen. Some other

shrubby Yews are more handsome but none as hardy. Has a variety of uses. Best in a cool, moist, semi-shady spot. Bright red fruits which the Black-throated Blue Warbler is known to eat.

**Highbush Blueberry.* *Vaccinium Corymbosum*. As regards both ornamental value and attraction for birds, this is perhaps the best shrub on the list. An all round fine shrub. The berries appear in the markets. Many birds like it, from Towhees and Fox Sparrows to Crows and Blue Jays.

Withe-Rod. *Viburnum Cassinoides*. A common American shrub of great merit, having fine foliage, flowers and fruit. Thrives in wet soil and at the seashore. Fruit is dark blue when ripe and is eaten by Crows, Cedar Waxwings, Bluebirds and Robins.

Arrowwood. *Viburnum Dentatum*. A good sized, native shrub with good, though somewhat coarse, foliage and nice flowers in the middle of June. Good for planting on a fairly big scale. Fruit lasts well and a good shrub for nesting sites. Attracts Cardinal, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrush, and others.

**Nannyberry.* Sheep Berry. *Viburnum Lentago*. Tall shrub or small tree with glossy leaves and abundant flowers. Good sized, sweetish fruits, lasting well. Very satisfactory in the background of plantings. Attractive to the birds listed under the other Viburnums. These three Viburnums obtainable from most any nursery.

Weigela. *Weigela Hybrida*. This is a collective name for Weigelas that are the hybrids of different species. Not especially attractive plants but give a fine show of bloom—white and varying tints and shades of red. Do well under city conditions. Furnish winter food for such birds as Junco, Redpoll, Pine Siskin and Tree Sparrow.

I.

There is a guide who is (YY)
Enough to take his (EE)
And study nature with his (II)
And think of what he (CC)

2.

He hears the chatter of the (JJ)
As they each other (TT)
And sees that when a tree de (KK)
It makes a home for (BB)

—ANONYMOUS.

Nature Lore School

The Eighth National gathering of the Nature Lore School is unique in several ways. This school first started as a school under the auspices of the National Association of the Directors of Girls Camps in 1920. In 1924 it was continued under the auspices of the Camp Directors' Association. This year it is coming to the State of New York and has been enlarged in scope through the cooperation of several agencies. The school will be at Camp Andree, the National Girl Scout Camp, Briarcliff Manor, which is about 30 miles from New York City. This is one of the most cooperative nature plans that has ever been attempted and leaders will be furnished by such organizations as the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, various universities, the Buffalo Society of Natural History, and the Palisades Interstate Park. Dr. William G. Vinal of the New York State College of Forestry is the Director of the School. The Woodcraft League and the American Nature Study Society have also endorsed the movement, the American Nature Association having taken Dr. Vinal on its staff as a field worker in the extension of this work. Directly following the school he will visit summer camps for the purpose of inspecting and continuing nature guiding.

The Nature Lore School is further distinctive in its staff of nature specialists, nationally known. Their names, titles at home, and subject in the outdoor school are as follows:

Professor William Alexander, Director Children's Work, Buffalo Society Natural History, *Nature Excursionist*.

Dr. Bertha Chapman Cady, National Girl Scout Naturalist, *Team Play in Nature Lore*.

Miss Christina Carlson, Instructor in Nature Study, Rhode Island College of Education, *The Nature Den*.

Mrs. Anna Botsford Comstock, Professor Emeritus of Nature Study, Cornell University, author of Handbook of Nature Study, *The Nature Notebook and Principles*.

Dr. George W. Field, member President Coolidge's Committee on Outdoor Recreation, *Nature Conservation*.

Miss Ruby I. Jolliffe, Superintendent Camping, Palisades Park, the largest camping park in the world, *Nature Songs and consultant for short term camps*.

Mrs. Jane Deeter Rippin, National Director of Girl Scouts, *Inspiration at the Council Ring*.

Mr. Lester F. Scott, Secretary and National Executive of Camp Fires, *The Camp Fire Way*.

Mr. Julian H. Salomon, Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America, Nyack, N. Y.; "Soaring Eagle" has lived amongst Blackfeet and Pueblos. Formerly instructor in Indian lore at Culver School of Woodcraft. *Indian Nature Study*.

Dr. William G. Vinal, Professor at New York State College of Forestry; U. S. Nature Guide; author of *Nature Guiding*, director of the school, *Nature Games*.

Miss Ruth Weierheiser, Director Roosevelt Field Club, Buffalo Society Natural History, *The Outdoor Museum*.

Mr. William Wessel, Assistant National Camp Director, Boy Scouts of America, *Camp Kinks and Woodcraft*.

The object of the school is to train for nature service: The nature counsellor for the summer camp; the Nature Guide for parks, municipalities, resorts and hotels; the Scout Naturalist as a district leader; the Playground leader for civic recreation centers; the nature teacher who wishes to become acquainted with the latest contributions to the movement. The first week will be devoted to intensive forestry and the second week to methods in Nature Guiding.

Requirements for admission differ from most schools in that the candidates

1. Have a genuine interest in Nature Guiding
2. That they desire to train for nature service according to the classification given above.
3. That they be nature leaders, preferably not over 18 years of age.

The growth of the school has made it necessary to make the following limitations. Each organization has been assigned a quota.

Students	
Camps (other than those listed below) who are members of the Camp Directors Association	25
Boy Scouts or Woodcraft League.....	20
Girl Scouts or Camp Fire Girls.....	20
Teachers and others—Playground leaders.	15
	—
Total	80

The course will run from June 17-30, 1927. Tuition \$20.00 per week. To register or for further information address Miss Elin A. Lindberg, National Girl Scout Headquarters, 670 Lexington Ave., New York City.

April, the fourth month, hath 30 days

1927 The Grass Moon* 1927

A bird in the bush is worth two in the hand.

—ANCIENT PROVERB REVISED

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|-------|--|---|
| 1 F | <i>April Fool's Day. Arbor Day</i> | "April showers make May flowers."
<i>in Arizona.</i> |
| 2 Sa | <i>First Amer. Agric. paper, Baltimore, 1819. Plant a memorial tree on someone's birthday.</i> | The biggest joke is the superstitious one.
Institute for training nature leaders this week end. |
| 3 Su | <i>John Burroughs, b. 1837. WAKE ROBIN. Edward Everett Hale, b. 1822. NATURE WEEK. 3rd to 9th.</i> | Leaves of the cattail are sometimes substituted for palm. Watch for spring migration of Canada goose and mackerel from the South. |
| 4 M | <i>Which oak has red leaves when young?</i> | Start "signs of spring" calendar. |
| 5 Tu | <i>The potato was first used as food in 1830.</i> | Have special sermons, school programs, free public lectures and exhibitions. |
| 6 W | <i>Peary discovered North Pole, 1909. U. S. entered World War, 1917.</i> | Turtles are hunting sand in which to lay eggs. READ TURTLE EGGS FOR AGASSIZ by D. L. Sharp. |
| 7 Th | <i>There are 66 national bird reservations. The first one was established at Pelican Island, Florida, in 1903.</i> | The male and female catkins in the willow are on separate trees.
Partridges are "drumming."
Publish colored chart of bulb blossoms. |
| 8 F | <i>Arbor Day in Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and West Virginia.</i> | Time for forsythia's yellow blossoms. |
| 9 Sa | <i>BIRD DAY. Sun rises 5.27; sets 6.37. A rising barometer and falling thermometer indicate fair weather.</i> | Beginning of bird contest. List 20 common birds to become familiar with during next ten weeks. |
| 10 Su | <i>Palm Sunday. First Arbor Day in U. S. in Nebraska, 1872.</i> | There should be organized hikes every week end for various Nature Clubs and units. |
| 11 M | <i>HIKE WEEK 10th to 17th.</i> | Evening lecture on Bird Migration. |
| 12 Tu | <i>Camp Fire Girls' program teaches girls to be at home out-of-doors and awakens love of nature.</i> | Morning hikes for mothers; afternoons for school children; Saturday afternoon for business girls and employed boys. |
| 13 W | | |
| 14 Th | <i>Sun rises 5.18; sets 6.43.</i> | "Do not pick the wood flowers" campaign. |
| 15 F | <i>GOOD FRIDAY. Arbor Day in Utah, Indiana and Colorado.</i> | Plant early beets, carrots, swiss chard, peas, parsnips, spinach and turnips. |
| 16 Sa | <i>Bacteria are the smallest plants. Full moon.</i> | Keep eye out for hepaticas, arbutus, bluets, dandelions, blood-root and saxifrage. |

*Since the April Calendar was deprived of its place by the Year Book, it is published now for those who wish to keep the entire series.

- 17 Su EASTER SUNDAY. The egg is an emblem of resurrection. Have Easter egg hunt FORESTRY WEEK 17th to 24th. or egg rolling. Easter eggs are given various colors by boiling To graduate from Brown, in colored water. Emblems and mottoes may be made. Syracuse and other universities it is necessary to know how to swim. Preserve eggs in water glass. Sermons on Forestry.
- 18 M San Francisco earthquake and fire, 1906. Moon rises 8.18. Earthquakes are not due to wicked people.
- 19 Tu PATRIOTS' DAY OR ARBOR DAY. Arbor Day differs according to the locality. School programs Battle of Lexington and Concord, 1776. and lectures for public planting by Scouts.
- 20 W Filbert Roth, b. 1858. Secure free posters, pamphlets, and leaflets from U. S. Forest Service, Washington, D. C. Put in basket willow cuttings.
- 21 Th John Muir, b. 1838. STICK-EEN. Feature story on toad superstitions. Demonstrations of forestry methods.
- 22 F Arbor Day in Nebraska. Tadpole aquaria in store windows. Sterling Morton, "Father of Arbor Day," b. 1832. Enos A. Mills, b. 1870. THE ADVENTURES OF A NATURE GUIDE. Do not gather or purchase the arbutus. Plan open house at Weather Bureau. Anemone, cowslip, white violet, and trillium should appear now. They are woodland flowers.
- 23 Sa Sun rises 5.03; sets, 6.55. Publicity on weather forecasting.
- 24 Su Edward Howe Forbush, b. 1858. BIRDS OF MASSACHUSETTS. National Wild Flower Day. "As ye sow, ye are like to reap."
- 25 M Ohio Agric. Exp. Sta. organized 1882. Exhibit of silkworm and industry.
- 26 Tu Audubon born in 1785. N. J. Forest fire prevention campaign until the woods are green. In-struct in right use of camp fires. Use dead trees for fuel.
- 27 W Provide safe swimming. The American National Red Cross trains camp counselors in first aid and life saving. Winter furs should be put in storage. The clothes moth hatches from an egg. If there are no eggs and no access to the clothes there can be no moths.
- 28 Th
- 29 F Arbor Day in Michigan, It is not necessary to have rats and mice. World's Forestry Congress, 1926. Forest fires are preventable.
- 30 Sa Arbor Day in Massachusetts. Recreation is but one use of the forest.

Donated Playgrounds

Increasingly public spirited citizens are deeding to their communities property which, devoted to park and playground purposes, will be dedicated permanently for the recreation of the citizens.

Niles, Michigan, has recently received from Mr. and Mrs. Frances J. Plym a gift of four acres, situated along the banks of the St. Joseph River, which will serve as a park and playground. It will be administered by the Park Board.

On December 24, the Aurora, Illinois, City Council accepted two playgrounds for the children of their city as a Christmas present from Colonel and Mrs. I. C. Copley. One of the playgrounds contains five acres; the other nine. In addition, \$18,000 was given to equip the grounds and after an eighteen month period \$30,000 more will be presented, the interest of which will be used to keep up the playground. The property and endowments represent a gift of something over \$80,000.

May, the fifth month hath 31 days, 1927 The Planting Moon 1927

Where there's a will there's a way.

—Proverb.

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|-------|---|
| 1 Su | May 1st is AMERICAN DAY. Stow in his <i>Survey of London</i> quotes Hall: "On May Day in the morning, every man, except impediment, would walke into the sweete meadowes and greene woods, there to rejoyce their spirites with the beauty and savour of sweete flowers, and with the harmony of birds, praying God in their kind." |
| | Corner stone of Smithsonian Institution laid, 1847. Ernest Harold Baynes, b. 1868. |
| | WILD BIRD GUESTS. |
| 2 M | Emphasize native flowers. |
| 3 Tu | First commission on Agriculture organized by Congress, 1820. Henry S. Graves, b. 1871. THE WHITE PINE. |
| 4 W | Work started on Panama Canal, 1904. Boston Academy of Arts and Sciences, Inc., 1780. |
| 5 Th | Memorial Day instituted by G. A. R. 1868. |
| 6 F | Arbor Day in Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming. |
| 7 Sa | Sun rises 4.42; sets 7.12. |
| 8 Su | Mothers' Day. Smith-Lever Act, 1914. |
| 9 M | Nature Guiding began in the Yosemite National Park in 1920. |
| 10 Tu | Arbor Day in Montana. |
| 11 W | Glacier National Park, established 1910. |
| 12 Th | Planting has nothing to do with the moon. |
| 13 F | Arbor Day in Rhode Island. Sun rises 4.34; sets 7.19. |
| 14 Sa | Lewis and Clark expedition left St. Louis, 1804. |
| 15 Su | Dept. of Agriculture founded 1862. |
| 16 M | Full moon. Health departments should plan to inspect and supervise camps. |
| 17 Tu | Look for Mercury, Morning Star, rising about one hour before the sun up to May 30. Moon rises 8.18. |
- the morning, every man, except impediment, would walke into the sweete meadowes and greene woods, there to rejoyce their spirites with the beauty and savour of sweete flowers, and with the harmony of birds, praying God in their kind." In Merrie England the Maypole was consecrated to the Goddess of Flowers. It was usually of birch. It became the Liberty Pole here.
- Most woodland flowers complete blooming before the shade of the tree leaves. They are native herbs and are in danger of extermination. Early May flowers are polygala, clintonia, arbutus, and anemone.
- Plant by soil conditions and not by the moon. Plant beans, late celery, endive, potatoes, late peas, and early squash.
- The best week to study tree blossoms.
- Encourage old fashioned posy gardens. Watch nesting habits of birds.
- Give young chicks fresh air, sunshine, and ground (Farmers' Bulletin 1111).
- Emphasize family picnics. Talk on preventing flies and mosquitoes.
- Raise sunflower seed-heads to feed winter birds.
- Bird-foot violets present blue fields. Native trees are more apt to succeed.
- Plant late beets, cabbage, squash, early corn, and cucumbers.
- Spray trees with arsenate of lead just before and after petals fall to prevent caterpillars and apple worms.
- Miniature back yard shown in stores. Burn tent caterpillar nests.
- Protect street trees from horses.
- Look in the bogs for arethusa, iris, squaw-weed, and cotton grass to be in bloom. Gets lawn mower ready for spring work.

- 18 W *Camp Dudley was first Y. M. C. A. Camp (1885) and is oldest existing camp for boys. Over 400 Y. M. C. A.'s conducted summer camps in 1925.* Every community should maintain a wild life area. Plans for summer camp should be complete.
- 19 Th *C. A.'s conducted summer camps in 1925.* Yeast is the most useful house plant.
- 20 F *There were approximately 200 Y. W. C. A. camps in 1925. Moon rises 11.16.* May is the month for bird and flower trips.
- 21 Sa *Saturn is best seen as Evening Star up to end of month.* Pull up currants and gooseberries within ¼ mile of white pine.
- 22 Su *First National Conference on Outdoor Recreation, 1924.* Mildew proof your tent (Farmers' Bulletin 1157).
- 23 M *Sun rises 4.23; sets 7.30.* Plan a water trip. Gather shells.
- 24 Tu *Length of Day, 14 h. 36 m.* Trilliums are lilies.
- 25 W *Ralph Waldo Emerson, b. 1803.* Fireflies may appear now. How explain light?
- 26 Th *The National Association of Audubon Societies has nearly 50 bird reservations. What is nearest bird sanctuary to your community?* Plan and advertise the best trips to see the lilacs in bloom. Do the same for cherry time, apple and peach orchards, and the rhododendrons. Start campaign to prevent the breaking down of the flowering dogwood and other roadside shrubs.
- 27 F *What is nearest bird sanctuary to your community?*
- 28 Sa *Bureau Animal Industry, 1884.* Cut flowers for Memorial Day. Mow lawns.
- 29 Su *MEMORIAL DAY.* Feature story on how to make and care for a good lawn.
- 30 M *Schuyler Mathews, b. 1854* Plan for a June breakfast at open air fireplaces.
- 31 Tu *FIELDBROOK OF WILD BIRDS AND THEIR MUSIC. Walt Whitman, b. 1819. LEAVES OF GRASS.* Over 700 weeds have already been introduced in the United States.

In Pasadena

Pasadena's Tournament Park in Paddock Field covers twenty-three acres, approximately seventy-five per cent. of the space being given over to active recreation features, including two baseball diamonds, five lighted tennis courts, a one-quarter mile track, a football field, soccer field, field house with clubrooms, shower baths and lockers, a small children's playground, a shaded walk miniature arboretum around the borders approximately a mile in length, picnicking area with tables for approximately 500 people and ample parking space. The estimated service at this unit last year was 200,000.

Two new picnicking areas at Brookside Park bring the capacity to 10,000 people, who can be served simultaneously. During the past year 1,231 picnic reservations were made. The facilities provided in this park of 66 acres include a mission type field house, major sports' fields, two splendid swimming pools, a recreation pavilion, seven hard service tennis courts, lighted for evening play, a children's playground, an outdoor theatre, a stad-

ium seating 54,000, hiking trails and parking space for approximately 9,000 cars.

While approximately 1,200 people a day take advantage of the recreation facilities of Central Park, covering 9½ acres, the majority reached are men for whom are provided a bowling green with a club house and locker room for the bowlers, horseshoe pitching courts and eight lighted roque courts. In addition there is a tourists' club, adult recreation center club house and a playground for small children.

At Carmelita Gardens is to be found Pasadena's Community Art Center and major arboretum. Here is located the art institute with its year-round art exhibit and there are wild flower gardens covering approximately three acres. The Sunday afternoon concerts and community sings are attended by an average of 1,000 persons. Recently the city appropriated \$1,000 for the sings.

Pasadena has other parks and play centers, bringing the total acreage up to 993 acres of parks, playgrounds and athletic fields under municipal supervision or approximately one acre per eighty people.

Homes for Feathered Tenants*

Summer with her cheery feathered songsters is not distant. Now is the time to make and erect homes which may later be rented for the price of a song. Attractive bird houses will lure to your premises numbers of songbirds who will cheerfully protect your trees and gardens from insects and other pests, besides giving continuous concerts.

If tenants are desired in your houses it will be well to erect them as early as possible. Birds are not very much in favor of brand new quarters. A weather-beaten place appears more natural, so if your houses are erected as early as January the rain and snow will help to make them more acceptable to tenants. In this connection it is well to remember that the feathered folk prefer them made of materials as near like those found in nature—rough wood or bark—and finished to look as much as possible like the surroundings. When mounted on a pole white is the best color.

Making the House

If you want a bird to occupy your house it is well to consider what kind you wish for a tenant. All have their preferences. Bluebirds and woodpeckers want homes as near as possible like the trunk of a tree. Wrens require a small opening and a perch on which one parent may sit and burst his throat in song to relieve the monotony of the sitter. Sparrows will not trouble a hanging house. Robins, phoebes and swallows prefer open houses. Martins like to live in apartments. Study the characteristics of the birds you wish to attract in order to fit their homes to their needs. However, there are many birds that will gladly build in any shaped house you may build, provided the place is safe. The dimensions suggested for various houses are as follows:

Bird	Floor inches	Depth of cavity inches	Entrance above floor inches	Diameter of entrance inches
Bluebird	5x5	8	6	1½
Robin	6x8	8	open house	
Chickadee	4x4	8-10	8	
House Wren	4x4	6-8	1-6	1
Barn Swallow.....	6x6	6	open house	
Phoebe	6x6	6	open house	
Martin	6x6	6	1	2½
Flicker	7x7	16-18	16	2½
Woodpeckers	6x6	12-15	12	2
Downy Woodpeckers.....	4x4	8-10	8	1½

A small hole should be made in the floor for drainage, and holes may also be placed just beneath the eaves for ventilation. These add greatly to the comfort of the birds on hot days. All

houses should be easy to open so that they can be cleaned at the end of the season. A shelf or open box will invite a phoebe, robin, barn swallow, or chimney swift.

Materials

The best materials to select for bird houses are weather boards, rustic cedar, strips of wood with bark adhering or asphaltum roofing paper. Smoothly planed boards and paint should be avoided. Gourds and cocoanut shells can be made acceptable by cutting a hole of proper size in one side, cleaning them out and drilling a small hole in the bottom to drain out any rain that may leak in. To make tin cans usable and keep them from becoming excessively hot in the sun they should be covered with bark, one end being replaced with a block of wood and an opening of the proper size made in one side of the can. A hollow limb, a deserted woodpecker's nest or a block of wood hollowed out in the form of a woodpecker's nest are all good devices but it is usually easier to cut rough boards into proper lengths and nail them together securely in the form of a small box. Sometimes boxes of the proper size, such as chalk boxes or starch boxes, can be found ready-made and used with a little reenforcement. Reed basketry woven in various shapes has been used by some to make homes for birds. Clay has also been put to this use by school children.

Stoneart is a new handcraft material very well adapted to making rustic looking bird houses. It is in dry form to be mixed with water and applied on wood or cardboard forms.

Other Attractive Features

There is no place too small to attract songsters. The dweller in the most humble cottage has as many chances of winning them as the owner of a country estate with spacious grounds. Offer them a place which gives them the protection necessary and they will come. Remember that invisibility is one of their best means of protection. Houses placed in trees are invitations to nest. Wrens will inhabit homes fastened to a roof or arbor or hanging from some projection. Protection from cats is very necessary. The cat is said to be the greatest enemy of our native birds. If there is one in the neighborhood barbed wire or a metal guard should be placed around the trunks of trees containing bird homes.

*Bulletin of the Department of Recreation, City of Reading, Pa.
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Trees and shrubs will also attract the songsters, especially if they are those that furnish food for them, such as barberry, mulberry, privet, dogwood, choke cherry, sumac, elder and June berry.

Exposed nesting materials will be an invitation to settle down to any winged couple.

Examine the nests of the species you wish to attract to learn what types of material they use. String, yarn, paper, cotton, scraps of cloth and tape are used by many birds. Orioles like bright colors and robins have been known to use large pieces of cloth.

During the migration season many strange birds may stop to rest on your premises, and attracted by the accommodations offered there may decide at once to settle down. One of these attractions might be a constant supply of fresh water—a natural stream or a constructed bird bath. Water is necessary to the birds' well being, both for drinking and bathing. They will not remain where it is difficult to secure it. A bird bath may be made a thing of beauty—an ornament to any yard. They may vary from elaborate stone or concrete affairs to simply made ones of wood, attractively finished and lined with tin or copper. They should be placed away from shrubbery where there is no danger of a cat's creeping unseen upon those using it.

Feeding stations will also be a bait to the migrant passing your grounds. These may be wire containers for suet or a small protected shelf supported on a tree or pole where seeds and crumbs may be scattered. Some persons feed birds all year round. Food may be cracked corn, oatmeal, peanut butter, suet, chopped raisins and nuts, meat scraps and sunflower seed.

Bird lovers have found that a bit of red cedar wood placed in each house lures tenants. Houses facing south or east are most likely to be occupied.

Somehow birds seem to recognize a place where they are welcome and safe from cats and other enemies. Provide such a place and the net profits will be yours.

Collecting Rents

There are several mediums of exchange with which you will be repaid for your efforts to attract birds. One of them is the constant cheer brought to your premises by these songsters and the pleasure you will derive from daily observation of them. It is fascinating to watch a bird bathe and note how nearly human they act in their family relationships. A pair of glasses is a great aid in this.

But far greater is the pay they return in the way

of decreased number of insects in your garden and trees. Birds are our natural protectors. The busy bee has nothing on mother martin when there are four hungry mouths to be fed. Birds save millions of dollars every year by constantly combating the insect foes of plant life.

NOTE: Many cities are introducing the competitive element into their bird house building. The judging is usually done on the following basis:

Practicability	40 percent
Workmanship	35 percent
Uniqueness and originality	15 percent
Method of cleaning and ventilating...	10 percent

An excellent source of information on constructing bird houses is *Homes for Birds*, Farmers Bulletin No. 1456, United States Department of Agriculture, published by the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 5c.

Zoning

Zoning, and recreation, and living conditions are closely related. Both the zoning movement and the recreation movement are dependent upon public opinion. The recent decision of the United States Supreme Court upholding the zoning ordinance of an Ohio village seems to be giving very general satisfaction, for it indicates that our local communities are to have greater power in planning for their growth and development. It is tragic to see new real estate developments without any provision for parks or recreation centers, and the more men and women in our cities think of zoning and city planning the more surely are they going to provide for land which shall be set aside for community uses.

The Supreme Court of the United States pointed out that the exclusion of buildings devoted to business, or trade, from the residential districts bears a rational relation to the health and safety of the community.

This decision will give the men and women in our cities who are responsible for city planning with reference to living and recreation conditions more courage. It is particularly gratifying to see how far public opinion has moved along in the last ten years in recognizing the necessity for zoning and adequate city planning.

An Institute for Directors

Beginning January 17th the Playground and Recreation Department of Los Angeles held an institute for staff workers, the program for which was as follows:

Monday, January 17th

- 9:30—The Growth of the Recreation Movement
- 10:00—The History of Recreation in Los Angeles
- 10:30—The Professional Responsibility of the Recreation Leader
- 11:00—Demonstration Period
Singing—Games
- 11:30—Discussion Period
How to Develop and Use Volunteer Leaders
- 12:50—Luncheon with members of the Board present

Wednesday, January 19th

- 9:30—The Balanced Program
- 10:15—Separate sessions for men and women
 - (a) Activities for Men and Boys
 - (b) Activities for Women and Girls
- 11:00—Demonstration Period
Relay Games
- 11:30—Discussion Period
 - (a) How to Administer Indoor Facilities
 - (b) How to Administer Outdoor Facilities

Friday, January 21st

- 9:30—The Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds
- 10:00—The Care of Equipment
- 10:30—The Work of the Central Office
- 11:00—Demonstration Period
Tag Games
- 11:30—Discussion Period
 - (a) How to Handle the Playground Office
 - (b) How to Work With the Caretaker

Tuesday, January 25th

- 9:30—Community Organization and Research

- 10:00—Cooperation with Social Agencies
- 10:30—Cooperation with Other Recreational Agencies
- 11:00—Demonstration Period
Stunts
- 11:30—Discussion Period
 - (a) How to Stimulate Home Recreation
 - (b) How to Deal with Outside Groups
Using Department Facilities

Thursday, January 27th

- 9:30—Drama and Pageantry
- 10:00—Storytelling
- 10:30—Social Recreation
- 11:00—Demonstration Period
Folk Dancing
- 11:30—Discussion Period
 - (a) Character Building for Boys
 - (b) Character Building for Girls

Saturday, January 29th

- 8:00 P. M.—Social Recreation Evening at Echo Park Club House

Who Discovered America

Through the courtesy of Mari Ruef Hofer, well known as the author of a number of pageants and books on drama, the Association is able to announce that a pageant outline, *Who Discovered America*, prepared by Miss Hofer, may be secured in mimeographed form. This patriotic pageant, which may be presented by means of megaphone sketches, pantomime and moving tableaux, is suitable for the patriotic period. It assembles peoples and nations in a new way and stresses the theme that all the world helped to discover America for all the world.

The Esquimo as a discoverer, the Viking, pathfinder of the sea, the Russians, Columbus and the Spanish, the French, the English and the Dutch pass in review, and are welcomed by the New World and her nymphs. In Part IV, Law, Government and the Constitution, join the New World in receiving the Thirteen States.

Suggestions are given for action and costumes, and episodes are outlined for each group of discoverers.

The pageant may be secured for 25c.



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Annual Luncheon of New York Settlements

A prosperous year for New York settlements was reported by Dr. John L. Elliott, director of the Hudson Guild, who presided at the annual luncheon of the United Neighborhood Houses held in January at the Pennsylvania Hotel. New playgrounds, play schools, little theatres, and summer camps have been added to settlement equipment. The country work of the houses is of growing significance, he said. Some settlements had erected new buildings or had built additions on existing ones.

"Modern Advances in Thought and Their Significance for Social Work" was the topic of Dr. Will Durant, one of the two principal speakers at the luncheon. The effect of the teaching of Copernicus, which upset the current idea of heaven, was to center effort among many upon producing heaven upon earth, that is, the improvement of social conditions "on this side of the Jordan." Darwin's teaching of the "survival of the fittest," however, was negative for social

work. Some of his disciples, notably Carl Pearson, held that all social work was a mistake, that it was contrary to the laws of nature. Thus, Darwin gave comfort to conservatives, reactionaries, the selfish and indifferent, who refused to aid social work on the ground that it kept alive the unfit.

Kropotkin, who announced that it was not only by the ability to struggle but by the ability to cooperate and sympathize that man could advance, gave the greatest impetus to sympathetic social work, Dr. Durant said.

Dr. George E. Vincent contrasted the attitude of scientists and of laymen on new social facts. Today the scientist, discovering new facts, is ready to change his hypothesis or cast it aside altogether if necessary. The scientific discoveries of today are supplemented and altered by those of tomorrow. The layman is unscientific in his thinking. He cannot make qualifications. He wants his facts simple, and he wants them straight. Qualifications disturb him. When he discovers a new fact, he jams it forcibly into the various baskets of his prejudices. It takes a violent wrench to make him change his preconceived notions.

Our Folks

Charlotte Ross has recently been employed as Director of Colored Work in Auburn, New York.

Donald MacKen has succeeded Mrs. Katherine Dabney Ingle as Superintendent of Recreation in Mt. Vernon, New York.

James P. Craig has been employed as the year round Superintendent of Recreation in Kearney, New Jersey.

Josephine Randall has been appointed to the position of Superintendent of Recreation, San Francisco, California.

Calvin Stalnaker, formerly of Hamilton, Ohio, has been employed as Executive Secretary of the Colored Work in New Orleans, Louisiana.

W. T. Reed, formerly of Morgantown, West Virginia, has accepted the superintendency of the newly organized municipal recreation department in Muncie, Indiana.

On May first Sadie Frey will return to Oneida, New York, as the Superintendent of Recreation.

Mary Turfley, of Pittsburgh, has recently succeeded Mrs. Drusilla Porter as Executive Secretary of the Progressive Recreation and Social Service Association of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

F. A. Mathewson, who has been the Superintendent of Recreation for Plainfield, New Jersey, since June, 1923, has recently accepted the position of Director of the Union County Park System with headquarters at Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Roy Schlenter, formerly Superintendent of Recreation in Bristol, Virginia-Tennessee, is to succeed F. A. Mathewson as Superintendent of Recreation in Plainfield, New Jersey.

Walter F. Hanson has been employed as Superintendent of Recreation in Tacoma, Washington, to succeed C. V. Munsey.

Julius C. High has gone to Orlando, Florida, as Director of Colored Activities under the Bureau of Recreation.

B. B. Church, formerly of Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina, has been employed as Director, South Side Boys' Club, Chicago, Illinois.

Milton Apperson, formerly Director of Recreation in Lexington, North Carolina, has been employed as Director of the Community House in Spindale, North Carolina.

Helen Porterfeld, formerly Superintendent of Recreation in Knoxville, Tennessee, has recently gone to Jacksonville, Florida, as the Assistant Superintendent of Recreation.

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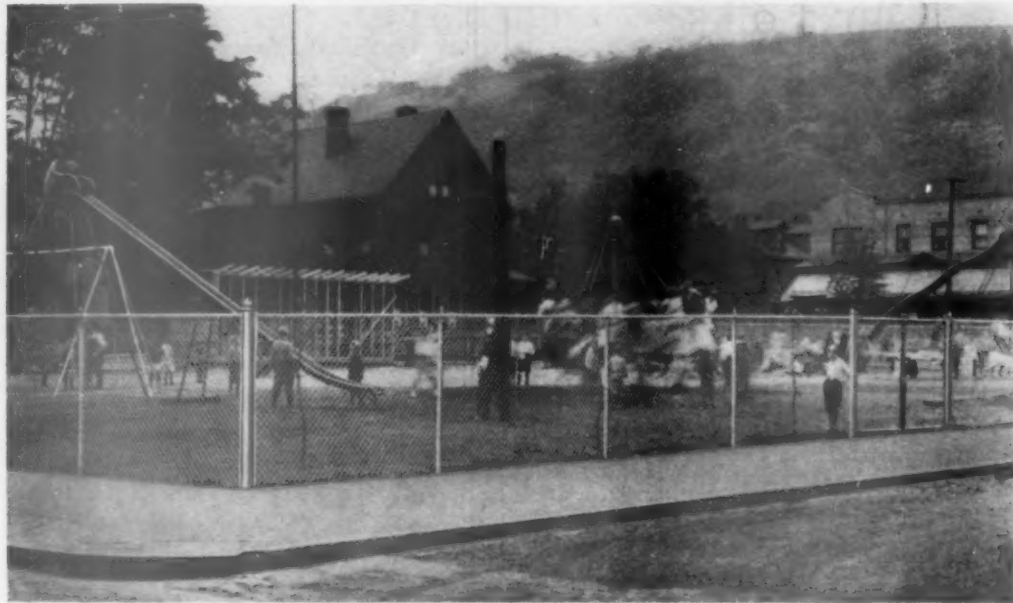
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Not only does The H. J. Heinz Company, of Pittsburgh, Pa., provide the public with its "57 Varieties," but it also spices the life of Pittsburgh's children with many varieties of good fun. This company has given its practical endorsement of the Playground Idea by presenting Pittsburgh with the Anchor-fenced playground shown above.

Safety—a matter of vital importance to the playground committee

"Why don't you put up a danger sign on this cliff?" the visitor asked the native who was showing him the neighboring sights of an Irish coast village. "Shure and we did, but narry-a-wun fell over the cliff, so we tuk it dhoun," replied the native!

If you are a member of a playground committee, or in any way connected with playground administration, you will appreciate the significance of this story. You will know that the problem of safety is one that sometimes fails to obtain the consideration due to it—until some tragedy draws everybody's attention to this problem.

There are many playgrounds where it is still possible for a child to run headlong in pursuit of a playmate or a stray ball,

right under the wheels of passing traffic. Yet the recognized authorities on playgrounds are unanimous in advocating protective fences.

A fence of the right type keeps the children playing contentedly within the limit of the playground, undistracted by occurrences in the street and unmolested by neighborhood bullies or ill-natured dogs.



The problem of fencing the playground is one whose solution demands considerable experience. For to be effective a playground fence must be of the right type, properly located and expertly erected. And to give lasting service it must be of strong, enduring construction.

If you are considering the erection of a playground fence, you

are invited to take advantage of the Advisory Service of the Anchor Post Fence Company, and its experience of over 30 years in manufacturing and erecting fences for playgrounds and other properties in every section of the country. This free service is nation-wide in scope and is gladly rendered. Use the coupon on the opposite page.

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CONTAINS a wealth of information vital to everyone concerned with playgrounds.

It will help you in spreading the playground idea in your community; in organizing, planning, constructing and operating playgrounds; and it will introduce you to many other sources of information.

This booklet was written in close cooperation with The Playground and Recreation Association of America. "You are to be congratulated," writes that organization, "on the excellent appearance of the booklet, as well as the selection and arrangement of its contents, and we are glad to have been able to assist you in the preparation."

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Among the subjects discussed in this booklet are:

The case for playgrounds—how they reduce child delinquency; develop better minds and bodies; reduce street accidents; and pay for themselves by the increased values of surrounding property.

How to get playgrounds—forming a playground organization; promoting a campaign; organizing demonstrations; etc.

Planning, constructing and equipping playgrounds—choosing sites; laying out the grounds; selecting apparatus.

How to conduct a playground—The need for leaders; selecting leaders; care of the grounds; handling the children; program of activities, games, entertainments, etc.

Appendix—a playground bibliography; a list of helpful organizations; a list of manufacturers of playground equipment.



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The Climbing Structure

**Every Playground
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Glenn M. Tindall has been employed as Supervisor of Music by the Board of Playground and Recreation Commissioners in Los Angeles, California.

E. D. Antoniu, formerly associated with Dorothy Enderis in social service work in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has recently been employed as Superintendent of Recreation in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

At the Conventions

The fifty-fourth annual meeting of the National Conference of Social Work will be held at Des Moines, Iowa, May 11th-18th, 1927. The program will cover a wide range of subjects in the promotion of human welfare in its twelve divisions. In addition nearly thirty kindred groups will hold their annual meetings or conferences. An advance program may be secured from Howard R. Knight, General Secretary of the Conference, 277 East Long Street, Columbus, Ohio.

The present problem of the school and home is how to impart to the children of today not only the ancient moralities but also the new capacities and motives they are sure to need.

—CHARLES W. ELIOT.

Pamphlets Received

Containing Articles of Interest to Recreation Workers and Officials

MAGAZINES

THE JEWISH CENTER. December, 1926

Leisure and the Church, by Abba Hillel Silver

The Jewish Attitude toward Recreation, by Mordecai Soltes

Athletics for Girls and Women—The New Trend, by Mary Wallace Weir

A Women's Physical Education Department, by Emily Solis-Cohen and Lucy Marvin Adams

EDUCATION. December, 1926

The Honor Point System at West Chester High School, by S. R. Oldham

THE AMERICAN CITY. December, 1926

Various Ways of Acquiring Land for Recreation Purposes, by L. H. Weir

"Ask the Recreation Department," by Jay B. Nash
Leisure as a Cause or Cure of Crime, by Charles Platt, M.D., Ph.D.

January, 1926

\$200,000 Gift to Canton for Park Development
Sane Halloween Program Successful in Chicago
Playground Beautification Contest Winner

THE PEDAGOGICAL SEMINARY AND JOURNAL OF GENETIC PSYCHOLOGY. September, 1926

A Comparison of the Play Activities of Town and Country Children, by Harvey C. Lehman
Community Differences in Play Behavior, by Harvey C. Lehman

PARKS AND RECREATION. November—December, 1926

The Distribution of Park Areas, by C. E. Chambers
The New Buckman Field in Portland, by C. P. Keyser
New Plunge at Beaumont

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The Neighborhood Park in a "Better City," by John
P. DePagter

Music Court at Alum Rock Canyon Park in San Jose,
California, by Stephen Child

Is the Park Department the Logical Branch of City
Government to Conduct a Municipal Recreation
Program? by Theodore Wirth

Leisure Time the Theme—National Recreation Con-
gress

Municipal Golf—Its Influence on Park and Recrea-
tion Affairs, by Harold S. Wagner

AMERICAN CHILDHOOD. January, 1927

Why Blanket Your Playground? by Flora J. Wolfson
In the Schoolroom Theater

SIERRA EDUCATIONAL NEWS. January, 1927

How to Get An Athletic Field, by Robert J. Teall

MICHIGAN EDUCATION JOURNAL. January, 1927

A Community Score Card

AMERICAN FORESTS AND FOREST LIFE. January, 1927

Winter Sports in the Adirondacks, by H. W. Hicks

AMERICAN CHILDHOOD. February, 1927

The Educational Value of Doll Play, by Florence
Brown Sherbon

THE SCHOOL ARTS MAGAZINE. February, 1927

The Circus, by Louise Naber (How the children
of the elementary grades of the Phoenix, Arizona,
Schools made and colored a circus)

AMERICAN PHYSICAL EDUCATION REVIEW. November,
1926

Selected Bibliography of Physical Education and
Hygiene

Stadium Design, by Gavin Hadden

December, 1926

The Classification of Tests in Physical Education,
by David K. Brace

Specific Objectives of Physical Education, by Luther
Van Buskirk

Play Spaces as Health Education Equipment, by
Clark W. Hetherington

HYGEIA. February, 1927

Barnyard Golf, by George H. Dacy

SAFETY EDUCATION. February, 1927

A Winter Carnival, by Mary O. Pottenger

PAMPHLETS

ANNUAL REPORT OF PUBLIC RECREATION—Plainfield, N. J.,
1925.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLAYGROUNDS
RECREATION—Los Angeles, 1925-26.

ELMIRA COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT, 1926.

OUR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS—Published by the Milwaukee
Board of School Directors.

CHILD LABOR FACTS, 1927. National Child Labor Com-
mittee.

SWIMMING POOLS AND OTHER PUBLIC BATHING PLACES.
Published by the American Public Health Association,
370 Seventh Ave., New York City. Price, 25c.

Any Other City to Match This?—The De-
partment of Playground and Recreation of the
city of Los Angeles, has recently sent the P. R.
A. A. an order for thirty subscriptions to THE
PLAYGROUND, 18 to be sent to individual play-
grounds, 5 to playground commissioners and 7 to
the office of the department.

In the bulletins issued by the department to the
staff, the attention of the workers is called each
month to particularly significant articles appearing
in the current issue of the magazine. The local
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A new game for boys up to sixteen years of age; even adults enjoy it. Nine-hole course can be arranged on plot as small as one acre, on ground used at times for baseball and other athletic contests.

Rules for playing are the same as regular golf, so far as applicable to the smaller ground area.

Used at Evanston, River Forest, Lake Forest, and Wilmette, Illinois. Ask these Directors of Recreation about the game.

Get a set for each playground in your City; toward the end of season conduct a tournament.

Each boy will want to purchase and own his individual Club.

Complete equipment \$20.00 f.o.b. Anderson, Indiana

American Playground Device Co.
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Book Reviews

THE EUROPE OF OUR DAY. By Herbert Adams Gibbons. Published by the American Library Association, 86 E. Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois. Price, cloth \$.50; paper \$.35.

This, the most recent publication in the *Reading with a Purpose* series, presents a fascinating study of contemporary European history. "Reading contemporary European history," says Mr. Gibbons, "is 'reading with a purpose'; it will help us in our contacts with others and in our planning for ourselves. Reading in this field will make us more intelligent in the exercise of duty of voting, upon whose faithful performance depends our country's security and prosperity."

The books recommended in this course are *Europe since Waterloo* by William Stearns Davis, *Twenty-five Years: 1892-1916* by Viscount Grey of Fallodon; *A Brief History of the Great War* by Carlton J. H. Hayes; *Europe since 1918* by Herbert Adams Gibbons; *England* by William Ralph Inge and *Economic Development of Modern Europe* by Frederic Austin Ogg and Walter R. Sharp.

ATHLETIC ALMANAC FOR 1927. Spalding's Athletic Library. No. IX. Published by the American Sports Publishing Company, 45 Rose Street, New York. \$.35.

Official records of the Amateur Athletic Union, Track and Field rules, swimming rules, national and district association championships, world records, Olympic records and foreign championships.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE. Issued by National Child Welfare Association, 70 Fifth Ave., New York City. February, 1927. Physical Education, historical background and the trends. Price, \$.25.



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THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE MOTION PICTURE, By Charles A. McMahon, National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, D. C.

In this pamphlet Mr. McMahon has pointed out the importance and magnitude of the motion picture industry as shown by the following facts on the economic side of the industry. The investment in American films stands today at more than \$1,500,000,000; the number of persons permanently employed is in excess of 300,000. Last year 200,000,000 feet of American film went into foreign trade. It is conservatively estimated that in the United States 50,000,000 people attend the movies each week. This means that practically the entire population of the country finds itself twice a month within the country's 20,000 motion picture theaters. Box office receipts last year as a result of this attendance were estimated to be \$520,000,000.

Mr. McMahon discusses the work of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, of the Motion Picture Bureau of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and other groups and suggests a number of films of educational and character building values.

"All is not well with the movies by any means," he says in conclusion, "and much remains to be done before its remaining faults will have been eliminated. The future, however, as far as the motion picture is concerned, is full of promise, and that, after all, is in itself a consoling thought to those optimistically inclined toward this great factor in the lives of people the world over."

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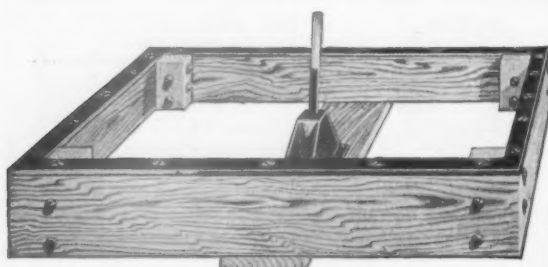
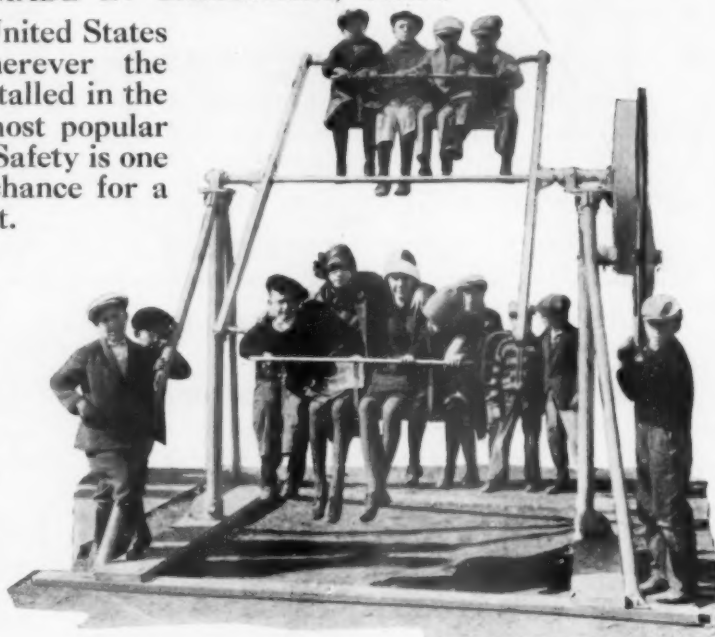
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